

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

We believe that community is beautiful and messy and fulfilling and conflicted and...the POINT. God calls us together into community for the sake of one another, our neighbors, and creation. We don't always get it right, but we trust that when we center the love and grace that Jesus taught, we will get it right more often than not.

You are welcome here! We don't expect perfect, put-together people; we don't want you to conform to us and our ways; we want you to show up as who you are and to experience the love and grace of God as we have experienced it. And we hope that once you do, you will join us in sharing it with others too.



April 27, 2025

For Your Prayers – April 28- May 4, 2025

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Esther 7:1-10; Revelation 1:9-20; Psalm 122 *Tuesday*: Esther 8:1-17; Revelation 2:8-11; Psalm 122

Wednesday: Esther 9:1-5, 18-23; Luke 12:4-12; Psalm 122 *Thursday:* Isaiah 5:11-17; Revelation 3:14-22; Psalm 30

Friday Isaiah 6:1-4; Revelation 4:1-11; Psalm 30 *Saturday:* Genesis 18:1-8; Luke 14:12-14; Psalm 30

Next Sunday's Lessons: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20] Psalm 30 (11) Revelation 5:11-14 John

21:1-19

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Sue Bosworth, Susan Britcher, Kristin Carter, Bob & Ginny Cummings, Forrest Fenstermaker, Sharon Jacobs, Donna Kittelson, Jim Mayfield, Carole Meyer and George Vonderheide.

<u>Pray for those unable to come to worship</u>: Ailene Bartlett, Ed Brown, Ruth & Forrest Fenstermaker, Bob and Angie Groom, Pat Janot, Marilyn Johnson, Jeanne Nelson, Darlene Simon, and Kay Wasaff.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Susan, Randy Altona, Charles Baugh, Donald and Carol Baum, Gary Baumgarten, Robi Bayard, June Brantley, Sue Havola Berhs, Mary Bloom, Tim Brown, Raymond Bunn, Karin Cavanaugh, Chris Clarke, Amaree Cluff, Ruth Ann Coski, Judy Craun, Judy Drezek, Becky Drury, Darrin and Rosemary Dunn, Tanya Fritz, Hollis Fulton, David Gade, Joel Gillespie, Greg Gildner, Joan and John Goodhart, Jonathan Hallman, Charee Hampton, Sue Hassan and family, Andy Havola, Nick Havola, Bradley, Kim, Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Lisa Hill, Nancy Hodge, Jaxon Ireland, Lynn Isenburg, Claudia Jacobik, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Jenn Kramer, Elaine Lane, Marnah Lund, Keara Mahony, Jim Monteith, Trish Macerelli, Laura Margolin, Jack Mayfield, Doug MacKenzie, Jimmy Mitchell, Liz Montalvo, Mia Monteith, Ed Moninger, Kim Morris, Bob Myers, Jeanette Osborn, Coral Pumley, Kurt Recktenwald, Stephen Rier, Brian Ritter, Sam Scovill, Pamela Sharp, Vasili Soultoukis, Kenneth & Laura Spencer, Chad Strausbaugh, Al Stern, Monika Stern, George and Jewel Thomas, Charley Underdahl, Dave Watts, Brenda Webster, Penny Weld, Pat Whelan, Caleb Winig, and Elaine Wrich.

Second Sunday of Easter

I. Gathering: The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Welcome

Centering Music Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Michael Burkhardt

Thanksgiving for Baptism

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of \pm the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured before or during the thanksgiving.

Holy God,

we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. Amen.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**



Prayer of the Day

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath, revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

II. Word: God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

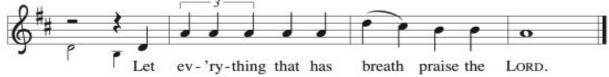
First Reading Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."

Psalm ______ 150



- ¹ Hallelujah! Praise God in the | holy temple; praise God in the | mighty firmament.
 - ² Praise God for | mighty acts; praise God for ex- | ceeding greatness. *Refrain*
 - ³ Praise God with | trumpet sound; praise God with | lyre and harp.
 - ⁴Praise God with tambou- | rine and dance; praise God with | strings and pipe.
 - ⁵ Praise God with re- | sounding cymbals; praise God with loud | clanging cymbals.
 - ⁶Let everything | that has breath praise the LORD. | Hallelujah! *Refrain*

Second Reading Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time. ⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Reader: "The Word of the Lord." Response: "Thanks be to God."

Gospel Acclamation



<u>Gospel</u> <u>John 20:19-31</u>

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

Response after announcement of the Gospel: "Glory to you, O Lord."

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas,

"Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Response at the conclusion of the Gospel: "Praise to you, O Christ."

Sermon "Everydayness" Pastor Jon Nelson

Silence for prayer and reflection.

Hymn of the Day Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers ACS 938

Bulletin page 11

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "Hear us, O God." Response: "Your mercy is great."

III. Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering

Offerings are gathered for the mission of the church: preaching and teaching the good news of our salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ and caring for the poor. During the offering, the table is set for the Lord's Supper.

Offertory Prayer

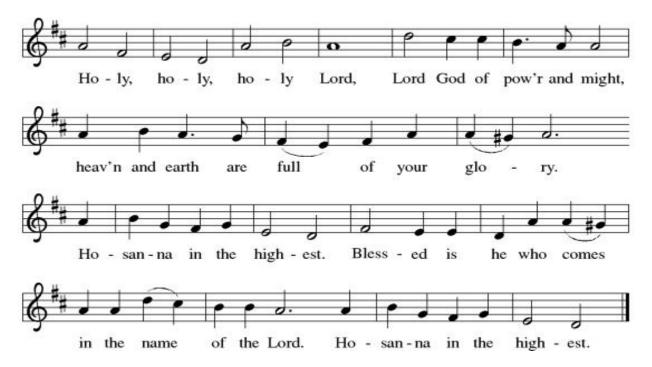
The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you... with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

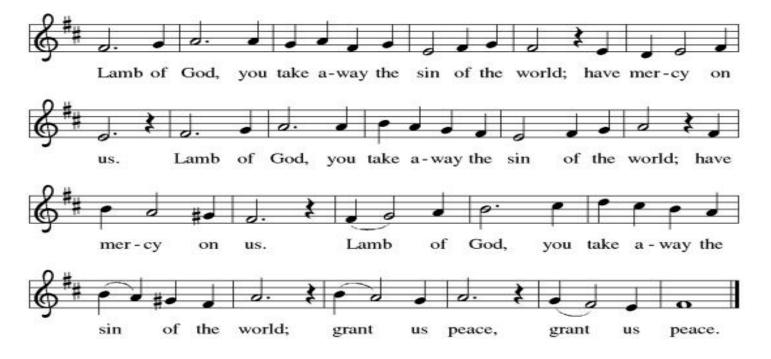


Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Holy Communion When receiving Communion, either stand or kneel at the Rail. Pastor will distribute the bread and a Communion Assistant will come with a tray of pre-filled cups of wine and grape juice. The juice will be in the middle of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available as an alternative to bread. All are welcome to the Lord's Supper.



Communion Music

Sheep That Safely Graze

J.S. Bach/ arr. Leonard Duck

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

IV. Sending: God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Sending Hymn

We Have Seen the Lord

ELW 869 Bulletin page 12

Blessing

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. Amen.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude Triumph

Arr. Chris de Silva

Thanks to Ina Berkey for her versatile keyboard skills this morning.

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing



- 5 When Thomas first the tidings heard, that they had seen the risen Lord, he doubted the disciples' word.
 Alleluia!
- 6 "My pierced side, O Thomas, see, and look upon my hands, my feet; not faithless, but believing be." Alleluia!
- 7 No longer Thomas then denied; he saw the feet, the hands, the side; "You are my Lord and God!" he cried. Alleluia!
- 8 How blest are they who have not seen, and yet whose faith has constant been, for they eternal life shall win.
 Alleluia!

Christ Has Risen



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: ST. HELENA, Calvin Hampton, 1938–1984

Text © 1988 WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

Music © 1977 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

We Have Seen the Lord



Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Jeff Sartain, b. 1962 Music: Tanzanian tune; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954 Tr. and arr. © 2003 Concordia Publishing House NIMEMWONA BWANA

As We Gather

Restrooms & First Aid

- ❖ A gender-neutral, family restroom and a Women's restroom can be found in the hallway behind our Worship Space.
- ❖ Additional Men's and Women's restrooms can be found on the lower level of the church building.
- ❖ A first aid kit and an A.E.D. can be found hanging on the wall in the hallway behind our Worship Space.

Live-streaming

❖ We regularly live-stream our services and cannot guarantee that you will not appear on our YouTube channel. Sitting in the East Wing or the NE section of the Worship Space will minimize your chances of being on screen. We can also bring communion to you if you inform an usher of that desire.

Parents! Thanks for bringing your children to worship.

- ❖ Did you know that intergenerational worship is the single most important activity encouraging children's faith formation? (See vibrantfaith.org)
- ❖ When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area (aka "prayground") with toys and books in the East wing of the Worship Space.
- ❖ Age-appropriate activity bags are available in the Gathering Space ask an usher for assistance.

Assistance is Available for You:

- **❖ An induction loop** is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T."
- ❖ Large print worship materials are available ask an usher.

<u>Health Update</u>: We always encourage you to monitor yourself for symptoms of illness and to worship from home if you are experiencing any. We have masks and hand sanitizer available for use in our building should you require.

What's Happening Today

Flowers this morning are given to the glory of God by Denny and Diana Krieger in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Upcoming

<u>Refugee Family Sponsorship.</u> We have an apartment and are working diligently to furnish it! Check the Gathering space for items you can purchase/donate for Wais, Sophia, and Elias. We have collected some furniture pieces as well and could use some help moving them. Please contact Brian Agor if you are available to help move larger furniture items.

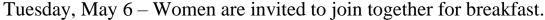
<u>Call Committee.</u> While the exact details of the call are still to be determined, the church council heard from you all that we should proceed with forming a call committee. One of the first tasks of the committee will be to gather information, conduct a congregational survey, and then complete a Ministry Site Profile. We hope that this process will help clarify the position we need to fill. We have two volunteers already, one council member and one member of the most recent call committee. We are looking for four more members, from a variety of different contexts. Are you interested in serving or know someone who is? Please contact Pastor Jon or indicate your interest in the bulletin sign up insert.

Quilting group will meet in the Library May 6th at 10:00am. If you were unable to attend the last meeting this is a great opportunity to come and discuss future dates and projects. All are welcome.

New Member Lunch. Have you transferred your membership but not been officially welcomed yet? Been considering joining but haven't yet? Join Pastor Jon for a New Member/Transfer lunch on Sunday, May 18th. Please indicate your interest in the bulletin insert.

Immigration Support. The request for help with filing fees received a strong response, so we are making a wider appeal. Our goal is \$6000, and if you would like to contribute, please make a donation to SSLC with "*Immigration Assistance*" in the memo line or comments.

<u>Breakfasts:</u> Come to build and deepen relationships – at the Colonial Pancake House, at the corner of Page Street and Penniman Road. Both gatherings take place at 8:00 AM. Thursday, May 1 – Men are invited to join together for breakfast.





<u>Preschool Taco Tuesday!</u> The preschool will be hosting a taco Tuesday night May 6th. If you would like to attend or to help, please sign up in the bulletin. Donations accepted in advance or at the door. Please scan Qr code to donate.

St. Stephen Calendar – April 27-May 4, 2025

Our worship service is available on our website <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u>, click on "Worship with Us" and "Services."

SUNDAY, April 27 ~ 2nd Sunday of Easter

8:30 AM	Worship - Hol	y Communion	(livestreamed of	n our YouTube channel)
---------	---------------	-------------	------------------	------------------------

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:45 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)

10:00 AM Faith Formation: Music (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship - Holy Communion

5:00 PM LSA Bible study (LSA Room)

6:00 PM LSA Dinner (LSA Room)

MONDAY, April 28

10:00 AM Staff meeting (Pastor's office)

1:30 PM Bible study (Library/Conference room)

4:15 PM Stephen Ministry Meeting (Library/ Conference room)

7:00 PM Pub & Grub (Billsburg Brewery)

TUESDAY, April 29

WEDNESDAY, April 30

8:45 PM YOGA (College Room)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, May 1

8:00 AM Men's Breakfast (Colonial Pancake House)

FRIDAY, May 2

SATURDAY, May 3

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 PM AlAnon (Gathering Space)

SUNDAY, May 4 ~ 3rd Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Matins Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

9:45 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

9:45 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class (Library/Conference Room)

10:00 AM Faith Formation: (Preschool Room)

10:30 AM Chancel Choir Warm-up (Worship Space)

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

5:00 PM LSA Bible study & dinner (LSA Room)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

	(8:30) Stan York
	(11:00) Brett Powers
Altar Guild	(8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel
	(11:00) Heidi Flatin and Pam Buckley
	(8:30) Steve & Beth Grant (11:00) Charles Osborn
Bread Baker	Heidi Flatin
Cantor	
Communion Assistants	(8:30) Karen Shoberg and Rosalie Frey
	(11:00) Traci & Brett Powers
Flower Delivery	Flowers will be picked up by the Kriegers after 11:00 service
Greeters/Hosts	
Lectors	(8:30) Randy Punchard (11:00) George Bass
	Pastor Jon Nelson
	. (11:00) Christopher Turner, Sonya Lim and Jim Weilmuenster

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 www.saintstephenlutheran.net (757) 229-6688

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861) Karen Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688) **Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)** Jessica Kimball – Preschool Director (229-6688)

Doing Ministry in the World Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net Office@saintstephenlutheran.net Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)

Copyright Information Praise to the Lord, the Almighty; Contributors: Michael Burkhardt; © 1997 Morningstar Publishing Company

> Variations on an Easter theme; arrangement: John Rutter © 1986 Oxford Press Sheep That Safely Graze; J.S. Bach/arr. Leonard Duck © 1963 Hinrichsen Triumph; Contributor; Chris de Silva Text: © 2018, GIA Publications, Inc.

One License Licensing Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under One License #A721099; CCLI Permission Reprinted/Streamed with permission under CCLI License #11256031; Permission granted, St. James Press

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB16440.

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church! Please fill this out and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

April 27,2025

Name:			_
For guests and members	with changes:		
Address (Home)			
City/State	Zip	_	
Telephone #			
E-Mail Address			
Guests Only: I belong to			
Church Address			
Member			
First time guest			
Regular guest			
Guest (out of town)			
Student at William	· ·		
Looking for a churc			
Desire to speak with			
Would like more int	formation about Step	ohen Ministry	
Any comments? Please b	e sure your name is	above, so we may respon	d, if necessary.

Prayer Requests

Diago and to the maryon list in this month's built tip and north and have
Please add to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's <i>Quill</i> :
Name:
Please remove from prayer concerns:
Name:
I/ We need a name tag
I/XX/ 1 , , , 1,1 NI NA 1 /T C I 1 NA 10th
I/ We plan to attend the New Member/Transfer Lunch on May 18 th
·
I/ We cannot attend the New Member/Transfer Lunch on May 18 th but are still
interested in joining
J &
I/ We are interested in joining the Call Committee
I/XV:11 1
I/We will be attending Taco Tuesday May 6th :# of people
I/we would like to help with the May 6 th preschool Taco night from 5pm-7pm
Set Up
Cooking
Decorating
Face painting
Clean up

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church! Please fill this out and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

April 27,2025

Name:			
For guests and members	s with changes:		
Address (Home)			
City/State	Zip	_	
Telephone #			
E-Mail Address			
Guests Only: I belong to		_	
Church Address			
Please check as many as p	pertain:		
Member			
First time guest			
Regular guest			
Guest (out of town)			
Student at William	· ·		
Looking for a churc			
Desire to speak with	=		
Would like more in	formation about Step	ohen Ministry	
Any comments? Please b	e sure your name is	above, so we may respo	ond, if necessary.

Prayer Requests

Please add to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's Quill:
Name:
Please remove from prayer concerns:
Name:
Tunie.
I/ We need a name tag
I/ We plan to attend the New Member/Transfer Lunch on May 18 th
1/ We plan to attend the New Member/ Transfer Editer on May 16
·
I/ We cannot attend the New Member/Transfer Lunch on May 18 th but are
still interested in joining
I/ We are interested in joining the Call Committee
•
I/We will be attending Taco Tuesday May 6th : # of people
T/ 1111 . 1 1 1 1 2
I/we would like to help with the May 6th preschool Taco night from 5pm-
7pm. Set Up
Cooking
Decorating
Face painting
Clean up