

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

If you are seeking God you are welcome here.

If you have been hurt in a judgmental church, here you will not be judged. Here you will be nurtured in the grace and Good News that our salvation has been accomplished in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. *Here you may discover that, in fact, it is God who has been seeking you!*

The Holy Trinity



June 4, 2023

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Job 38:39–39:12; 1 Corinthians 12:1-3; Psalm 29 *Tuesday*: John 39:13-25; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13; Psalm 29 *Wednesday*: Lamentations 1:7-11; 2 Peter 2:17-22; Psalm 50:7-15 *Thursday:* Job 38:1-11 2 Timothy 1:8-12a Psalm 8 *Friday:* Lamentations 3:40-58; Acts 28:1-10; Psalm 50:7-15 *Saturday*: Exodus 34:1-9; Matthew 9:27-34; Psalm 50:7-15 *Next Sunday's Lessons:* Hosea 5:15—6:6;Psalm 50:7-15 (15);Romans 4:13-25;Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Join your prayers for healing with God's desires for **Joe Beene, Ed Brown, Ingrid** Brown, Kristin Carter, Karen Einarsen, Sharon Jacobs, Marilyn Johnson, Evelyn Kernan, Jim Mayfield, and Linda Reuben.

<u>Pray for those unable to come to worship</u>: Joyce Behlendorf, Martin Bleck, Ed Brown, Birdie Burton, York Doerr, Bob and Angie Groom, Edith Haecker, Pat Janot, Jeanne Nelson, Joanne Shue, Darlene Simon, and Kay Wasaff

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Steven, Dawn Allen, Roberta Barbour, Rose Baumgarten, Sally Blackburn, Nelson Blish, Mary Bloom, Terri Byers, Jerry & Elijah Connor, Doug Crinklaw, Judy Drezek, Derald Edwards, Barbara Flatin, Dan Flatin, Joan & Frank Goodhart, Char Henry, Sue Ivey, The Kennedy family, Bob Lamoureux, Ron Luchetti, Marnah Lund, Doug Mayes, Detra Michaels, Gina Peterson, Paula Rega, Betty Roth, David Shoberg, Kelsey Slay, Vasili Soultoukis, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Caleb Winig, aitlin Sheppard-Witt, Linda Wright, The Graduating Class of 2023 and The Children of the Ukraine

The Holy Trinity

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

Welcome

Centering Music *Holy, Holy Holy, Lord God Almighty* Aaron David Miller

Call to Worship (from *Watch Night Service 2016,* written by Rev. J. Lee Hill) Let us worship the Triune God. **Let us worship the One** who spoke in the beginning and created something out of nothing.

Let us worship the Triune God. Let us worship the One who took on the clothing of humanity to set those who were oppressed free.

Let us worship the Triune God. Let us worship the One whose Spirit rests continually upon us, calling us from sorrow-filled endings to bright new beginnings.

Gathering Hymn	Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!	ELW 413
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Bulletin page 12

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.**

Canticle of Praise





Prayer of the Day

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

Genesis 1:1--2:4a

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. ⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. ²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. ²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every

creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." ²⁷So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." ²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. ^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created

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



 ^{1}O | LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in [|] all the earth!—

²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of in-¹ fants and children;

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe | and avenger.

³When I consider your heavens, the work [|] of your fingers,

the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mind-[†]ful of them, human beings that you should [†]care for them? *Refrain*

⁵Yet you have made them little less [|] than divine;

with glory and hon-[|] or you crown them.

⁶You have made them rule over the works [|] of your hands; you have put all things un- [|] der their feet:

⁷all | flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts | of the field,

⁸the birds of the air, the fish [|] of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths [|] of the sea. ⁹O [|] LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in | all the earth! *Refrain*

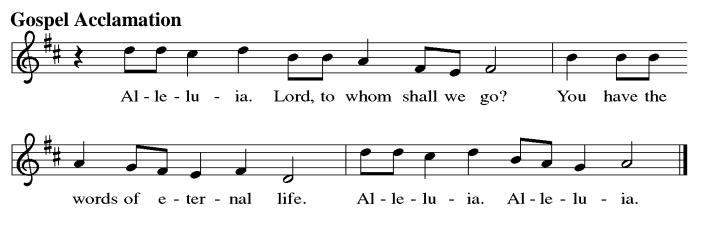
Second Reading

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

[Paul writes:] ¹¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

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



Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20

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

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

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

Sermon

Pastor Alex Sheppard-Witt

The Hymn of the Day will be announced in a few moments. First, please take time during the silence: What are your prayers in response to the sermon?

Hymn of the Day *The Play of the Godhead*

ACS 946 Bulletin page 13

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "Lord in your mercy." Response: "Hear our prayer."

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.

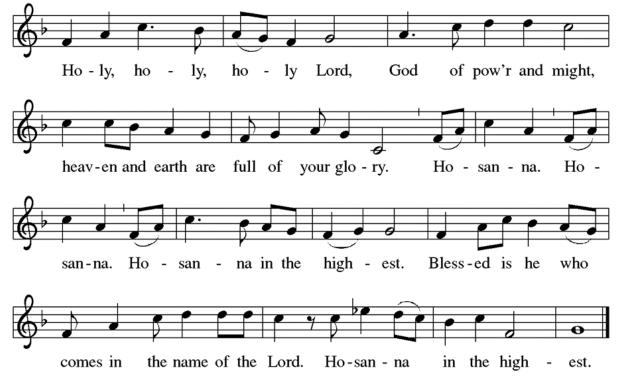
Offering of Music	<i>The Trinity</i> Matins Choir	Robert J. Powell
	<i>Glory Be to God the Father</i> Chancel Choir	Royce Isham

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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The Lord's PrayerOur 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. St. Stephen is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, so all are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood in the Lord's Supper.

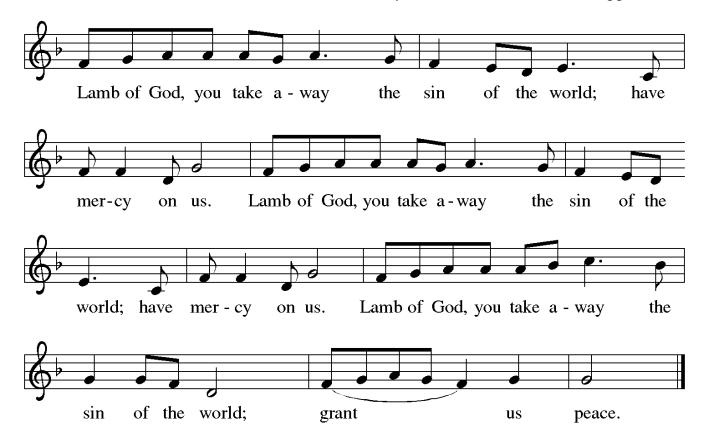


Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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

Sending Hymn

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

ELW 412 Bulletin page 16

Blessing The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

Sherri Hansen

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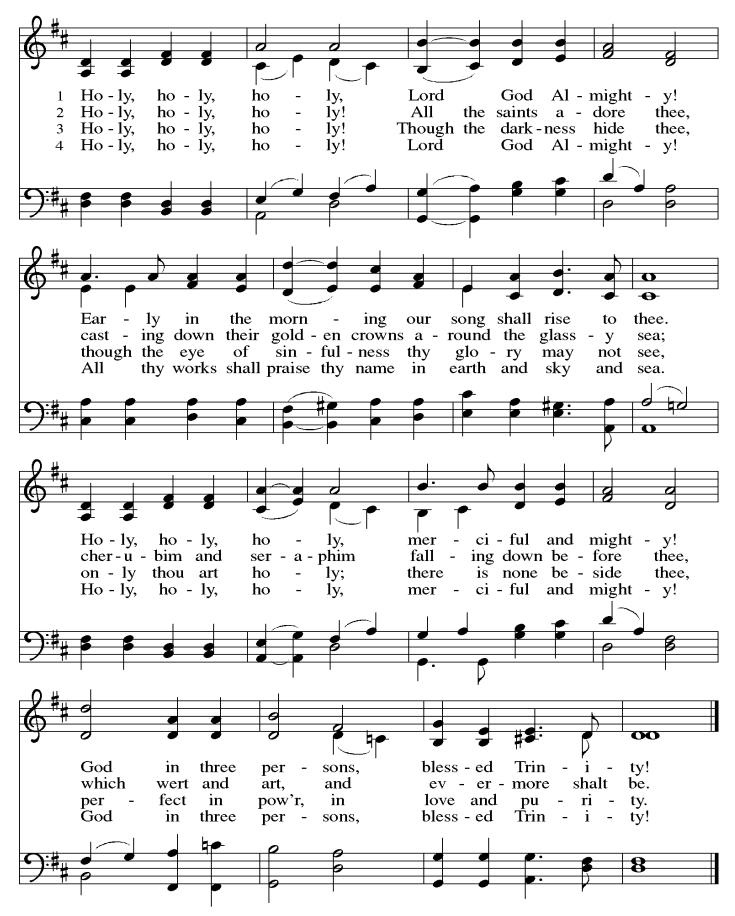
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Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!



The Play of the Godhead



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: PERICHORESIS, William P. Rowan, b. 1951 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Music © 2000 William P. Rowan, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

I Bind unto Myself Today





Text: attr. Patrick, 372–466; para. Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895 Music: ST. PATRICK'S BREASTPLATE, sts. 1–3, 5: Irish melody. DEIRDRE, st. 4: Irish melody

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity



Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune Text © 2001 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. www.selahpub.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

As We Gather

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.com)
- When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area with toys and books in the room right beneath 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.
- **Rest rooms** are accessible through the door in the wing to the left of the altar.
- **If someone should need emergency medical assistance,** CPR supplies, and a first aid kit are located in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall.

Health Update:

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.

Pulpit Swap & Potluck Picnic:. In order to foster connections between St. Stephen and Our Saviour's we have arranged a **Pulpit Swap today.** Pastor Alex will lead worship & preach here at St. Stephen and Pastor Jon will lead worship & preach at Our Saviour's. We will also hold a joint potluck picnic at Freedom Park that same today starting at 1:00 PM. Hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, buns, water, lemonade, plates, cups, and silverware will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share, and your own lawn chairs.

Upcoming

Service: 2023 Summer Lunch Program. Meals on Wheels has been getting many requests for summer bag lunches for children. Cathie Upton, Exec. Dir. of Meals on Wheels, estimates that there will be a need for 300 lunches each day with the total for the entire summer reaching almost 16,00 lunches. The prep. location will be the same as last year - MOW kitchen at the WISC. If you need more information please contact Hollie at the office.

Let us Celebrate Pastor Jon's 15 year Ordination! on June 18th with a breakfast between services. Please bring a "Breakfast" something to share and your good wishes to share between the services.

Worship: Summer Worship Schedule. Starting Sunday, June 25th we will be moving to one worship service for eight Sundays, ending August 13th. We will have coffee at 9:00 AM and worship at 9:45 AM on these Sundays. This worship service will be live-streamed as well. We hope that this joint service will help foster connections between "8:30 folk" and "11:00 folk" as well as give our worship leaders a lighter Sunday morning for these weeks of summer

<u>June Congregational Meeting</u>: We will hold our June business meeting on Sunday, June 25th. Our June meeting typically includes elections, a midyear review and update, and a report from the Preschool regarding the completed program year. To that annual list we will also add voting on the agreement to share a pastor with Our Saviour's. The agenda and supporting documents for the meeting will be shared soon.

Dinner Small Groups to build connections: All ages are invited to participate in our new dinner small group fellowship, a flexible program in which each group:

-Meets to share a meal together during a three month period, and decides together the best location and meal details for its members. Made up of about 8 people, each group will set its own "approach" for meals. . .

Dinner out? Great choice. Brunch or lunch at a group member's house? Perfect plan. Potluck after Sunday worship? Excellent idea. Take-out to share at a park? Nice option. Do whatever works best for the group! The purpose? Fellowship, inclusivity, relationships, breaking bread together, building connections.

Sign-up on the bulletin insert, or call or email the church office throughout June. Each group will meet once during July-September. Of course, you are free to meet more often if that works for your group!

2023 SUPER SCHOOL SNEAKERS for GROVE!

This is the 18th year that St. Stephen members have the purpose-filled opportunity to provide sneakers for Grove community students so they can start school this fall in style! If you like to shop, please buy GIRLS sneakers in any size from 6 to 11 or BOYS sneakers any size from 6 to 12, including half sizes for both—these are the most needed sizes but any size will do! Deliver them to the Gathering Space by Sunday, July 30 and we will take them to Grove. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please make the check out to St. Stephen Lutheran Church with SHOES FOR GROVE on the memo line.

Cash is also accepted in an envelope marked SHOES FOR GROVE. Put envelopes with checks or cash in the offering plate or in Hollie Jones's mailbox outside the church office by July 30 as well, and Grove will use our monetary donations to purchase sizes that are still needed.

Thank you in advance for supporting this project in such a big way for the past 17 years! If you have any questions, please call Marilyn Johnson at 757-345-0806.

The Social Ministry Coordinating Committee

Health Ministries

Ways to improve your brain

One of the most feared diagnoses is that of dementia. We all know someone who has been diagnosed with dementia and possibly may have cared for someone who has dementia. While there are no cures available, there are some things you can do to help strengthen your brain.

1) Play games. There are several online games such as Lumosity, BrainHQ, Happy Neuron and My Brain Trainer. They have been shown to improve memory in participants. Also, games or puzzles that involve strategic thinking can help to stimulate the brain. Think Sudoku, Blokus, chess, Wordle, Quordle, Nerdle, etc.

2) Move. Don't sell your home, but maybe get a good pair of walking shoes. You want to increase blood flow and oxygen to your brain by increasing your heart rate. Dancing and swimming are also good for get your heart pumping. For added benefit and challenge, engage your mind and try to name all the states with their capitals.

3) Breathe. Practice mindfulness and pay attention to your breathing. Studies show an increase in gray matter in the hippocampus after just eight weeks of sitting quietly and doing meditation. It also helps to improve concentration, makes you sleep better, improves mood, and increases self-awareness.

4) Try a new hobby. Learning new things creates new pathways in the brain and helps to keep dementia at bay.

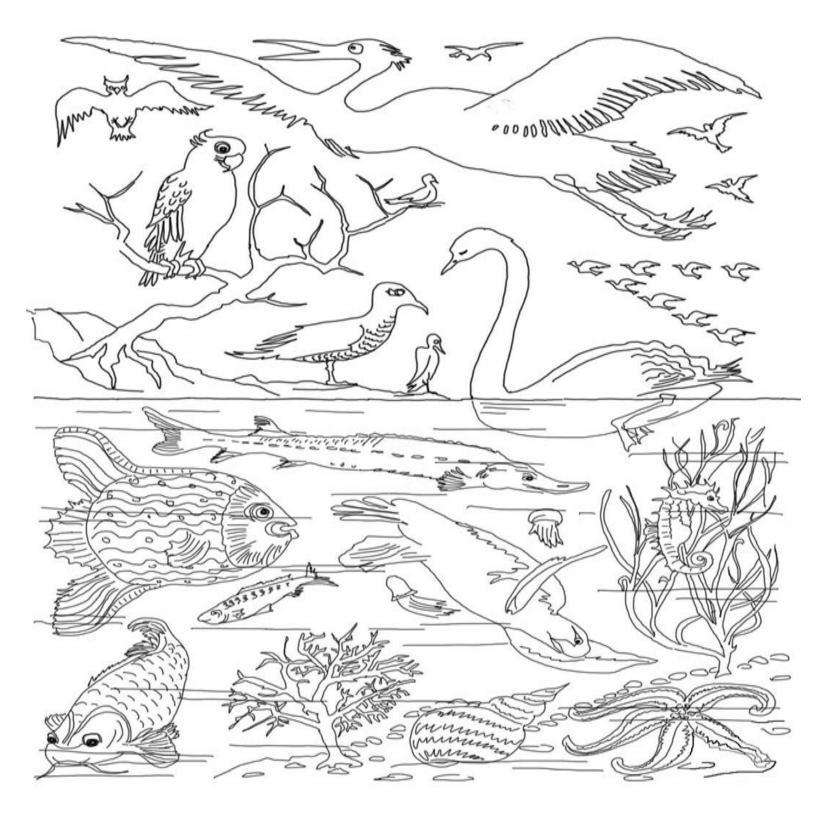
5) Stay connected. Staying socially connected with others can improve brain function. It challenges our minds to listen, see visual cues and respond appropriately. Social isolation is a risk factor that is definitely avoidable.

Our church offers many opportunities to keep mental active. Walk and Talk, Pub night, and Game night are great opportunities to not only keep your brain active but also make some new friends.

Let me know if you have questions or need ideas.

Diana Tiller-Dichtel Parish Nurse

Genesis 1:25



2 Corinthians



<u>St. Stephen Calendar – June 4 - June 11 , 2023</u>

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

SUNDAY, June 4 ~

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

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

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

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

12:30 PM Summer Celebration Cookout (Freedom Park)

MONDAY, June 5

10:00 AM Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)1:30 PM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)

TUESDAY, June 6

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

WEDNESDAY, June 7

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, June 8

12:00 PM Staff Bulletin Review (Library/Conference Room)

FRIDAY, June 9

SATURDAY, June 10

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SUNDAY, June 11

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion (*livestreamed on our YouTube channel*) 11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

-	(11:00) David Nalson
Audio-Visual Team	
Bread Baker	Paula Agor
Cantors	
	(11:00) George Bass and David Nelson
Flower Delivery	
•	
Lectors	
Tellers	Jane Gingerich, Ursula Recktenwald, & Russ White
	(8:30) Bob Achenbach and Bob Harman (11:00) Glenn Joppa

St. Stephen Lutheran Church 612 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185 <u>www.saintstephenlutheran.net</u> (757) 229-6688

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our BaptismsDoing Ministry in the WorldPastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.netKaren Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.netHollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)Office@saintstephenlutheran.netDiana Tiller-Dichtel – Parish Nurse (232-5924)Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.netKristie Kelley – Preschool Director (229-6688)Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.netPeninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)Diang Ministry in the World

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

June 4, 2023

Name:
For guests and members with changes:
Address (Home)
City/StateZip
Telephone #
E-Mail Address
Guests Only: I belong to
Church Address
Please check as many as pertain:
Member
First time guest
Regular guest
Guest (out of town)
Student at William & Mary
Looking for a church home
Desire to speak with pastor
Would like more information about Stephen Ministry
Would like a Parish Nurse to contact me
A

Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if necessary.

Prayer Requests

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:		
include name		
phone		
email		
and #of participants in family with		
kids' ages, and indicate if transportation is needed		
Y/ N		