

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World



November 27, 2022

For Your Prayers – November 27-December 4, 2022

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Psalm 124; Genesis 8:1-19; Romans 6:1-11

Tuesday: Psalm 124; Genesis 9:1-17; Hebrews 11:32-40

Wednesday: Psalm 124; Isaiah 54:1-10; Matthew 24:23-35

Thursday: Psalm 72:1-7,18-19; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 1:12-17,21-26

Friday Psalm 72:1-7,18-19 Isaiah 30:19-26 ;Acts 13:16-25

Saturday: Psalm 72:1-7,18-19; Isaiah 40:1-11; John 1:19-28

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7,18-19; Romans 15:4-13;

Matthew 3:1-12

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Ed Brown, Kristin Carter, Karen Einarsen, Marj Gottschalk-Trone, Edith Haecker, Sharon Jacobs, Evelyn Kernan, Henry Mallue, Carole Meyer, Jim Mayfield, and Linda Reuben.

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

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Anastasia, Chris and Solveigh, Brian Allebach, Bob Alt, Stephanie Altland, Benny Anton, Philip A. Arnold, Jane Ayers, Gary Baumgarten, Rose Baumgarten, Susan Behrens, The Besser family, Toni Birch, Pamela Bosserman, Harrison Bryant, Bob Burdette, John Butler, Lane Clark, Bob Cummings, Josephine Curcio, Emmeline Daniels, Graham Darnell, Jeris and Tony DeKievit, Jen Dieter, Judy Drezek, Paul Dwiggins, Derald Edwards, Joan Fecondo, Samuel Fisher, Gloria Flamm, Kay Flatin, Betty Frazee, Bob and Linda Friend, Linda Gamble, Andrea Gonzalez, Rex Harder, Michael Harris, Andy Havola, Frank Hayes, Bradley Heintzelman, Nicole Ingle, Crystal Isaac, Nate Jacklin, Hilde Janke, Kirsten Johnston, Sandy Kellogg, John Knestrick, Richard Kochanski, Rebecca Krueger, Margaret Lewis, Jackie Locke, Mary Lott, Isabelle Lutzle, Jonathan Manning, Keith Margrey, Barry Marten, Doug Mayes, Patrick and Kristin McGraw, Harriett Meeks, Lisa Berg Melciouri, Detra Michaels, Judy Murphy, Jeremy Nelson, Lori Ott, Danielle Parrish, Louise Peardon, Phil Peters, Vincent Petty, Pastor Jennifer Phelps, Sue Plevelich, Michelle Raphael-Britt, Pearl Retchin, Edith Roberts, Betty Roth, Shann Rufer, Richard Schmaldinst, Inge Seiter, Cindy Sherwood, Patricia Simpson, Kelsey Slay, Mike Slyer, Brant Smith, Jerry and Evelyn Spear, Ken Steinberg, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Owen Werthmann, Carolyn Williams, Heath Wilson, Travis Wilson, and the people of Ukraine

November 27, 2022 ~ First Sunday of Advent

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

Welcome

Centering Music

Come Now, O God

setting Ann Krentz Organ

Advent Candle Lighting Litany

In this season of longing and anticipation, draw us together, Lord, in unity, that our praise and worship might echo in these walls and also through our lives.

In this season of longing and anticipation, draw us together, Lord, in mission, that the hope within might be the song we sing and the melody of our lives.

In this season of longing and anticipation, draw us together, Lord, in service, that the path we follow might lead us from a stable to a glimpse of eternity.

Season of Longing and Anticipation, (stanza 1) The first candle is lit.

Bulletin page 11

Let us pray.

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

Come Now, O God

ACS 902

Bulletin page 14

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

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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

First Reading Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.³Many peoples shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

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

Psalmody

I was glad when they said to me,

"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

¹I was glad when they I said to me,

"Let us go to the house I of the LORD."

- ²Now our | feet are standing within your gates, | O Jerusalem.
- Jerusalem is built I as a city that is at unity I with itself;
- 4to which the tribes go up, the tribes I of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name I of the LORD. Refrain
- ⁵For there are the 'thrones of judgment, the thrones of the 'house of David.
- ⁶Pray for the peace | of Jerusalem: "May they pros- | per who love you.

Peace be with- I in your walls and quietness with- I in your towers.

For the sake of my kindred | and companions, I pray for | your prosperity.

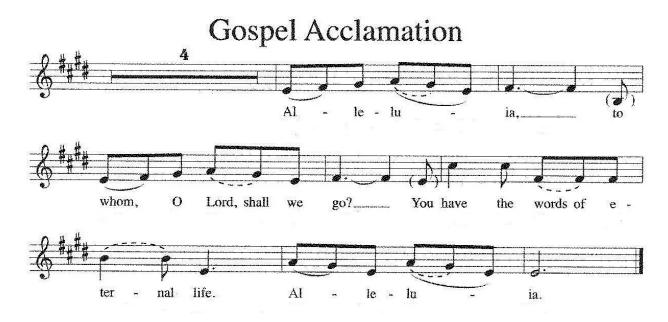
Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to 'do you good." **Refrain**

Second Reading Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires

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



Gospel Matthew 24:36-44

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

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

Sermon Wake Up! Pastor Jon Nelson

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

Wake, Awake for Night is Flying

ELW 436

Bulletin page 12&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

An offering is 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

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

Paul Bowman

Offertory Prayer

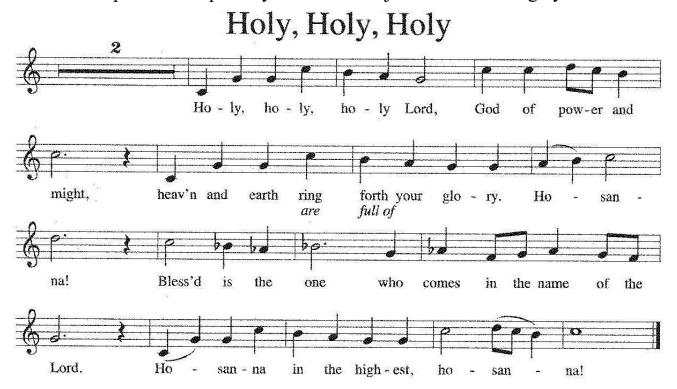
The Great Thanksgiving

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:



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and Forever. **Amen.**

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 prefilled 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.





Communion Music

My Lord, What a Morning

Setting Anne Krentz Organ

Communion Hymns

My Lord, What a Morning

ELW 438 Bulletin page 15

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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

Blessing

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, + bless you now and forever. Amen.

Sending Hymn

The King Shall Come

Hymn 260 Bulletin page 16

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is near. Thanks be to God.

Postlude Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Paul Manz

Postlude Notes: Paul Manz (1919-2009) was an American composer for choir and organ. His most famous choral work is the Advent motet "*E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*." His most famous organ works (from which the postlude comes) are his volumes of neo-Baroque chorale preludes and partitas. Manz long served the church as recitalist, composer, teacher and leader in worship. He was Cantor Emeritus at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saint Luke, Chicago, IL, as well as Cantor Emeritus of Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, MN.



Season of Longing and Anticipation Candlelighting Song



Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying





Come, Now, O God



Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune

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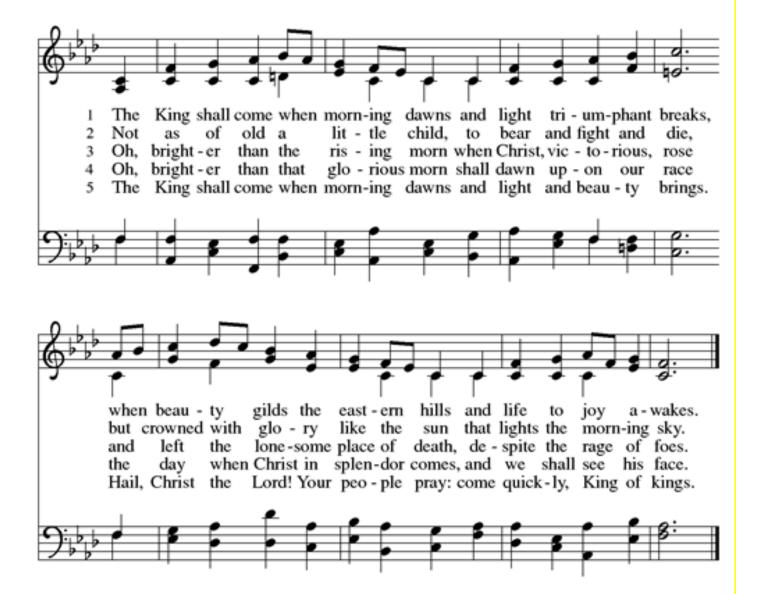
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My Lord, What a Morning



Text: African American spiritual Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

The King Shall Come



Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, Kentucky Hannony, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003
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Come Now, O God; Setting, Anne Krentz Organ; Piano reflections on advent tunes

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Rejoice, Rejoice Belivers; Paul Manz

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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)
- In order to pursue the faith value of inclusivity, you will find a dedicated space (aka "pray ground") in the east wing of the Worship Space. A pray ground is a developmentally appropriate space within the Worship Space for children and their parents to be present and active within worship.
- Age-appropriate activity bags are also available in the Gathering Space if you prefer to be in the pews 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.

COVID-19 Guidelines:

- Community transmission of COVID-19 in **James City**, **Williamsburg** and **York County** are **low**. Following CDC guidelines, masks are optional in public, indoor settings.
- Masks, if needed, are available in the Gathering Space.

<u>Advent Calendars and Study guides</u> are available in the gathering space. If you need one mailed to you please contact Hollie the Parish Administrator.

What's Happening Today

<u>Sunday Morning Faith Formation for children and youth</u>: Parents and children gather in the Fellowship Hall for Christmas Program rehearsal.

Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Nelia Lamoureux.

<u>Christmas is coming!</u> Music Director **Karen Ives** is teaching the children songs, and our first practice session is **today at 10:00 AM**. Meet in the Fellowship Hall

<u>We consecrate wafers</u> during Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Eucharistic ministers who are members of the congregation then take the sacrament out to homebound folks during the following week.

Upcoming

Weekly Bible Study. Come join us as we study the upcoming Sunday's texts! Tuesday's at 10:00 AM in the Library/Conference Room.

Advent Midweek Services. Please join us the Wednesday evenings of Nov. 30, Dec. 7, and Dec. 14 in the Worship Space and on our YouTube channel at 7:00 PM for "Behold Our Light," our Advent Midweek liturgy. In lieu of a fourth Wednesday evening service, this year we will have a "Longest Night Eve" service on Dec 20 at 7:00 PM

<u>Game Night!</u> Join us on <u>Saturday</u>, <u>December 10th at 5:30 PM</u> in the Fellowship Hall for a board game night! Learn a new game or bring an old favorite. Please bring a dish to share, water and lemonade will be provided.

<u>Christmas Caroling</u>. We will go Christmas Caroling on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>December 11 starting</u> at 4:00 PM. Groups of carolers will visit several families of our congregation, singing to them outside their homes. Returning to Church, we will enjoy chili and cornbread. Come join us as we bring some Christmas cheer to our sick and home-bound members. Bring your favorite chili and/or cornbread to share afterward in the Fellowship Hall

<u>Committee chairs, Council officers and staff:</u> Annual Reports for 2022 are due to the church office no later than Friday, **December 23**. Please send your annual reports electronically to Parish Administrator **Hollie Jones**.

<u>The Flower Chart for 2023</u> is posted in the display area of the Gathering Space. Please mark the date for which you would like to sponsor flowers! Sponsor sheets are in the envelope below the chart.

HEALTH MINISTRY

Self Care

As we head into the holiday season, it is important to remember that we need to take care of ourselves. While some look at self-care as indulgent and feel guilty, it truly means to look after your own needs and respond to what your body is telling you. It is a very simple way to prevent illness brought on by stress.

Chronic stress weakens your immune system making you more susceptible to colds, poor sleep cycles, ulcers, weight gain, heart disease and even diabetes. Studies show that when you are under chronic stress, you tend to make poor decisions regarding self. Overeating and excessive drinking are two examples of this.

How do I care for myself? Here are a few simple steps to start:

- Go for a walk, outside if possible. Putting your bare feet in the grass or sand is called grounding and is regenerative for the body.
- Do a few yoga poses. These allow the body to stretch and release tightened muscles.
- Take an Epsom salts bath.
- Read a book before going to bed.
- Take a nap in the day.

Electronics such as smart phones and tablets can keep us stressed. Set aside a couple of hours each day

that you turn off or put away such technology and just spend time out of touch. When we care for

ourselves, we often find it easier to help others and stress has less of a chance to get a hold on us.

Diana Tiller-Dichtel Parish Nurse

Worship and Fellowship for Advent and Christmas -

Behold our Light Allow the Spirit to nourish you with some moments of contemplation, as we gather at **7:00 PM** on these **Wednesdays in Advent**:

- November 30, **7:00PM**
- December 15, **7:00PM**
- December 7, 7:00PM

Children's Christmas Program

• Sunday, <u>December 18 at our 11:00 AM</u> Worship Service

Christmas Caroling outside to some of our ill and homebound folks Sunday, December 11

- **4:00 PM** We meet in the Fellowship Hall to organize.
- **6:00 PM** We'll return to the Fellowship Hall to share a meal together. Bring chili and/or cornbread to share! (If you're not able to make the caroling, feel free to join the meal gathering and vice versa!)

Blue Christmas Eve (also called the Longest Night Eve) This worship service honors people that have lost loved ones and are experiencing grief.

• Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 PM

Christmas Eve (all services with candle light):

- 7:30 PM Worship featuring sermon, choir and Holy Communion
- 10:00 PM Worship featuring sermon, choir and Holy Communion

First Sunday of Christmas, December 25:

10:00 AM – Worship and Holy Communion

St. Stephen Calendar – November 27 – December 4,2022

SUNDAY, November 27 ~ Advent 1

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

8:30 AM Worship – Holy Communion

9:30 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

10:00 AM Children's Rehearsal for Christmas Program (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 AM Faith Formation for parents of preschool aged children (Undercroft)

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

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM Lutheran Student Association Dinner (College Room)

MONDAY, November 28

10:00 AM Staff meeting

2:30 PM Stephen Ministry meeting (Library/Conference Room)

7:00 PM Book Study (Fellowship Hall)

TUESDAY, November 29

10:00 AM Bible Study (Library/Conference Room)

7:00 PM Preschool Committee (Library/Conference Room)

WEDNESDAY, November 30

7:00 PM Evening Prayer- Behold our Light

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, December 1

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

1:30 PM Book Study (Fellowship Hall)

7:00 PM Social Ministries Coordinating Committee (Library/Conference Room)

FRIDAY, December 2

SATURDAY, December 3

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

SUNDAY, December 4 ~ Advent 2

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

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

9:30 AM Matins Choir Rehearsal (Worship Space)

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

10:00 AM Faith Formation (Undercroft/Preschool Room)

10:00 AM Children's Rehearsal for Christmas Program (Fellowship Hall)

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

11:00 AM Worship – Holy Communion

6:00 PM Lutheran Student Association Dinner (College Room)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

| Acolyte/Crucifer | (8:30) Bill Dichtel |
|----------------------|--|
| | (11:00) Pam Buckley |
| Altar Guild | (8:30) |
| | (11:00) |
| Audio-Visual Team | (8:30) Nancy Carter (11:00) |
| Bread Baker | Jennifer Dabel |
| Cantors | (8:30) Karen Shoberg(11:00)Erika Cave |
| Communion Assistants | (8:30) Karen Shoberg & Rosalie Frey |
| | (11:00) Cyndy Touhsaent & Pam Buckley |
| Flower Delivery | Nelia Lamoureux |
| Greeters/Hosts | (8:30) Diana Tiller-Dichtel (11:00) Ward Bourn |
| Lectors | (8:30) Chris Punchard (11:00) Christina Nelson |
| Tellers | John McCurry, Carol Harman, Sandy Croushore |
| Ushers | (8:30) Robert Achenbach & Bob Harman (11:00) |

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

We gather to worship and study God's Word to deepen our faith and live our Christian witness and service in the community.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)

Karen Ives – Director of Music (828-242-1133)

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (229-6688)

Diana Tiller-Dichtel – Parish Nurse (232-5924)

Kristie Kelley – Preschool Director (229-6688)

Doing Ministry in the World Pastorin@saintstephenlutheran.net MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net Office@saintstephenlutheran.net Parishnurse@saintstephenlutheran.net Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (873-2273; counselors are in Williamsburg on Thursdays)

Welcome to St. Stephen Lutheran Church!

Please fill this out and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

November 27, 2022

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

Prayer Requests

| Please add | to the prayer list in this month's bulletin and next month's Quill: |
|------------|---|
| Name: | |
| Please rem | nove from prayer concerns: |
| Name: | |
| | |
| | I need a name tag |