

ST. STEPHEN SCROLL

St. Stephen Lutheran Church is a community of believers, saved by the grace of God, who are called to:

- *share his love through words and actions;*
- *welcome others into the family of Christ.*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ -

I am a cradle Lutheran. I grew up going to church almost every Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church in Richmond, IN. (Admittedly my church attendance waned pretty dramatically during my 4 years of college at Valpo . . . But I like to think I am making up for it now!)

I learned to be a Christian at Trinity Lutheran Church. I learned what it meant to be a beloved child of God at Trinity Lutheran Church. I learned and I was loved. I grew and I explored. And I decided being a pastor was for me while I was a part of Trinity.

Sunday school was also an important part of my childhood. Sunday school at Trinity Lutheran Church in the 1980's was fun.

There were flannel board stories from the Old Testament and there tales of Jesus' amazing miracles. I loved those flannel board stories. The people from the Bible came to life right there in our classroom as we learned about their lives and adventures.

(We didn't learn about their misadventures. I learned about those in college and seminary once I started reading the actual Bible!?!)

We colored. We crafted and we filled in worksheets about our Bible lessons to take home with us.

We also loved to sing! We may not have been very skilled - but wow were we loud. We took very seriously the psalmist's call to make a joyful noise unto the Lord! I learned to sing "Jesus Loves Me" - "Hear the Pennies Dropping" - "If I were a Butterfly" - "Jesus Loves the Little Children" - "Zacchaeus" and so many more truly wonderful songs.

And there were Birthday Crowns! Every year on the Sunday closest to your birthday you could choose and wear a beautiful construction paper and glitter crown. Your crown made you feel so very special. And then everyone in the ENTIRE church knew it was your birthday and they would wish you a Happy Birthday over and over again!

I learned so much from attending Sunday school each week at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Yes - I learned Bible stories. I learned those foundations of the Christian faith that every Christian should know like the 10 Commandments - the story of the Good Samaritan and the feeding of the 5,000. I learned about Noah and Jonah and Ruth and Gideon too. I met Paul and Peter and Lydia and all of the Marys (there are quite a few).

And I also got to ask some really big questions about faith. I learned there was room for me and my big questions in the church. (Thankfully there still is room for me and my big questions in the church - because I am absolutely full of big questions!)

I am so thankful for those early years of Sunday school. I am so thankful for the Christians who taught me and gave so generously of their time and talents. I am so grateful for the opportunities I had to learn and grow as a Christian.

Sunday school is still an important part of my life. I love Sunday school and look forward to it all week. I love studying the Bible with my sisters and brothers in Christ. I love the discussions we have and the questions that come up. Sunday school really and truly is a lot of fun!

Continued...

**St. Stephen
Lutheran Church**
5903 Bardstown Rd.
Fern Creek, KY 40291
502-239-7778

**Pastor Kerri M.
McFarland**

E-mail:
pastorkerri@gmail.com

*St. Stephen Lutheran Church
is a member of the
Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America.*

2021 Council Members

Rod Firquin,
President
Marcia Peterson,
Vice President
Julia Davis,
Council Secretary
Kelly Beckman
Glenn Eisenbrey
Marilyn Mills
Sean Morris
Elaine Peterson
Matt Young
Jack McFarland,
(youth rep, non-voting)

Jennifer Summers,
Financial Secretary
Buddy Zimmerman,
Treasurer
Cheryl Markley,
Office Secretary
**secretary.ststephen
@gmail.com**

Check out
*the website and
Pastor Kerri's blog!*
ststephen-louisville.com
and
pastorkerri.com

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Sunday school isn't just for kids. Sunday school at Saint Stephen is for EVERYONE! We all need to study God's Word. We all need to dust off our Bibles and actually READ them (crazy concept - I know). We all need to grow as people of faith! We all need to engage God's Word and talk about being people of faith in this world.

Will you be joining us for Sunday school at Saint Stephen this fall?

Sunday school starts at Saint Stephen on Sunday, September 12th at 9:00 am with a super special - welcome back celebration breakfast in the fellowship hall. You will be able to chat with your sisters and brothers in Christ - meet with your Sunday school teachers - and hear about our plans for the year.

On Sunday, September 19th at 9:00 am everyone (ALL of the Sunday school classes) will meet in the fellowship hall for a reunion game of Bible Trivia just to knock the dust off both our Bible knowledge and our relationships with one another. This will be fun - not painful. I promise - really - seriously - fun and not painful!

Then on Sunday, September 26th we will all gather in our respective classrooms for the first time in since Covid-19 changed our lives so dramatically.

We ask that you please wear your masks to Sunday school as long as the CDC is recommending masking. Please know we will be cleaning your classrooms and will have plenty of hand sanitizer available too.

I look forward to seeing all of you for Sunday school and to making wonderful new memories with all of you too.

In Christ and with Love -

Pastor Kerri



In-person Worship Updates

The Covid-19 situation has certainly changed since our last newsletter was published! Covid-19 statistics have been rising dramatically, and we need to do our part to protect each other. For now, our worship precautions are as follows:

- We are asking worship attendees to please wear a mask to protect yourself and your fellow Lutherans.
- Every other row of chairs in the sanctuary is still missing, and the worship materials are still placed on every other chair at least 3 days prior to the start of the worship service.
- We are still using pre-packaged communion wafers and grape juice for communion, and your offering can be placed in the offering plate in the narthex.
- Sharing of the peace is still mostly "touchless" for now, but you may share/touch within your family bubble.
- We have resumed singing hymns and hope to be singing the full liturgy by sometime later this fall. (This is another good reason for wearing your masks.)

Please be patient with us as we try make things as normal as possible while we also keep everyone safe.

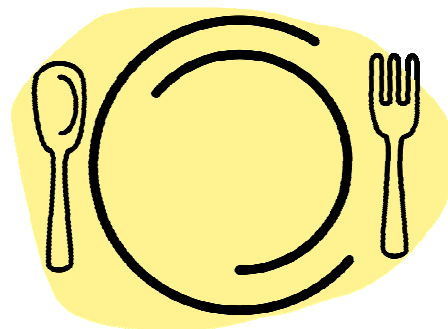


Celebrate Rally Day!

We invite you to join us for **breakfast at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall on Rally Day Sunday, September 12th**, to greet your Sunday school teachers and each other for a bit of fellowship before the official start of the Sunday school year. Our much-appreciated Sunday school teachers will be

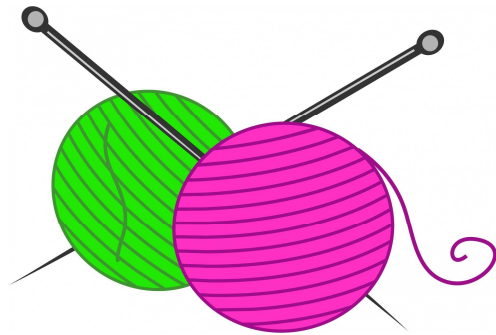
Pre-K - Kindergarten:	Peggy Zimmerman
1st - 3rd Grades:	Marilyn Mills & Sean Morris
4th - 6th Grades:	Tammy Utley
Confirmation:	Glenn Eisenbrey
High School:	Paul Kiser
Adult:	Pastor Kerri

The first day of Sunday school will be on the following Sunday, September 19th. See you there!



Prayer Shawl Group Resumes

Prayer shawl group will have in-person meetings on **Wednesdays, September 8th and October 6th**. You are invited to bring your own lunch to enjoy with us at 12:30 pm before the meeting, which starts at 1:00 pm. A Zoom link will be sent to those who still want to join remotely. Join us in our monthly meetings during the school year as we knit, crochet, or stitch items for needy people in a variety of projects. We look forward to getting together again!

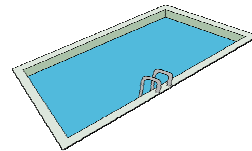


SCC Pool Party

All youth in Grades 6 through 12, you are invited to the **South Central Conference (SCC) Pool Party** on **Sunday, September 19th**, **2:30 - 6:30 pm** at the home of **Carol Taylor, Youth Director at Faith Lutheran Church, 3611 Constantine Drive Prospect, KY 40059**

Hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks will be provided. Each church group is asked to bring a side dish to share. If it turns out to be too cold to swim, we will turn it into a game day.

Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 15th
Carol Taylor: (502) 228-1329 or jbtaylor238@bellsouth.net
Tammy Kissling: (502) 552-1104 or sccyouthcoordinator@gmail.com



Next Social Ministries Collection

As we gather back together for Sunday School Rally Day and the first day of Sunday school on **September 12th and 19th, respectively**, we will hold collections for our social ministries at the **Sunday worship services**. Half of the donations collected will be sent to the Fern Creek Highview United Ministries, (FCHUM), and half will be kept in St. Stephen's social ministries account for other ministries. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Church Property Workday

A church property workday will be planned for sometime this fall, but no date has been selected yet. Please watch for information in the weekly bulletins and emails. Since much of the work is outside, we want to look at the weather as we get into September and October before we set a date. If you see something that needs to be done, please let Rod Firquin, 502-645-0115, know. Also, if you would be willing to take care of a particular task, please let him know that too.

Items to Bring for FCHUM

The Fern Creek Highview United Ministries has informed us that they are completely out of toiletries. We are going to help them out by collecting **toilet paper and other toiletries through the month of September**.

Then, in **October**, we will collect as many **canned veggies** as we "can" for FCHUM. Please place your donated items in the designated area in the narthex. Thank you so much for your generosity!

Halloween Party

Trunk and Treat has been a long-standing tradition at Saint Stephen, but Covid-19 has forced us to think a little differently this year. This does not mean that we can't still have fun, though! This year, we will have a one-night VBS-style party in which we will have Halloween-themed crafts, a yummy snack, games, and maybe a few stories. This St. Stephen Halloween Party will be on **Sunday, October 24th from 5:30 to 7:30pm**. Look for more details in the announcements and bulletins as we get closer to October.

St. Stephen Blood Drive News

The American Red Cross held a blood drive at St. Stephen on Thursday, July 1st. There were **24 successful donors!** Thank you to all who participated!

The American Red Cross will hold **another blood drive at St. Stephen on Tuesday, October 19th, from 2:30 to 6:30 pm** in the fellowship hall. Sign up for a time slot on the on-line schedule at www.redcross.org. Use sponsor code **ststephenlutheranlouky** or call 1-800-RED-CROSS. You might just save a life!



Early Summer FCHUM Donations

Fern Creek Highview United Ministries benefited from Saint Stephen's generosity! For FCHUM, we collected in June and early July,

85 boxes of macaroni and cheese
2 boxes of crackers
54 jars of peanut butter
26 cans of tuna
24 cans of assorted canned goods
117 rolls of TP
2 tubes of toothpaste
6 toothbrushes

Thanks for all of your donations!

FCHUM School Supply Collection Success!

In July, we collected school supplies for the Fern Creek/Highview United Ministries, (FCHUM), for their annual school supply collection. We were able to give FCHUM:

40 glue sticks	10 bottles of glue	1 ruler
18 packs of crayons	11 binders	49 folders
21 pairs of scissors	79 erasers	48 notebooks
19 boxes of markers	7 pencil pouches/boxes	18 packs of notebook paper
19 boxes of colored pencils	90 pens	54 backpacks
2 pencil sharpeners	482 pencils	

Thanks to all who donated. You have made the start of the school year a little brighter for needy kids in our community!

Volunteers Still Needed

More volunteers would be appreciated to clean the church for a couple of hours per week doing:

- Light vacuuming in narthex & sanctuary, some dusting
- Emptying trash cans
- Cleaning bathrooms

Because our activities at the church are light and infrequent for now, the needed cleaning is not extensive. If you can help, please contact Pastor Kerri, 502-239-7778, or Rod Firquin, 502-645-0115. We'd love to have a list of volunteers willing to help with this so that it is not up to the same few people as we all recover from the strain that Covid-19 has put on the church and the congregation.

Yard Sale Proceeds & Thanks

Thank you for making St. Stephen's yard sale on August 7th a success! We made **\$1171**. Special thanks go to everyone who donated and pre-priced items, those who priced items for those who did not have time, those who set up all of the tables before the sale, those who worked on the day of the sale, and Pastor Kerri and Jack who took much of the leftovers to Goodwill.



St. Stephen Directory

The new St. Stephen directory will be available very soon. We are just trying to wrap up the information on a couple of our college students and a few folks we have not heard from. When the directory is printed, it will be available in the narthex. If you cannot come to in-person worship to pick up a directory but you would like one, please contact the church office, 502-239-7778 or secretary.ststephen@gmail.com, and one will be mailed to you. At any time after the directory is printed you have a change in your contact information, please contact the church office so that we can update our records and keep you in the loop!



Congratulations, Jacob!

A great big congratulations to Jacob Malone and his parents who won a national financial award from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated in partnership with Micah's Voice to cover expenses related to the education, support, and care of children with autism. There are only 8 national awardees chosen, each getting a one-time gift of \$2000.00. In Jacob's case, the award will be used to purchase sensor-friendly items for Jacob's use in their home. We wish him the best as he explores using these new items.

Pastor Kerri
continues
to post the
worship services
on her blog each week.
She is also actively
writing blog posts
and posting
updates from the
Indiana / Kentucky Synod.
Please consider
stopping by sometime.

pastorkerri.com

Lots of Fun!

Approximately 20 kids and 15 adults had fun spending time as a Christian family at the Kids Evening at St. Stephen on August 1st. Thank you to Rod Firquin and the fellowship committee for providing and serving dinner; to Pastor Kerri for our story and for arranging a fun scavenger hunt; to Pastor Kerri and Nicole Legg for providing a fun craft time; to Jack McFarland for providing the tie dye extravaganza; to Cheryl Markley for providing a yummy snack; to Jeffrey Davis for organizing our games; and to all of those nice people who helped wrangle and guide kids!



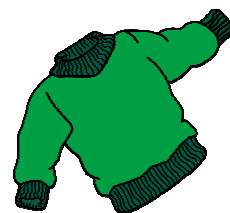
Adult Gathering Fun too!

On Saturday evening, August 14th, approximately 16 adults at St. Stephen also had fun! Thank you to Marilyn Mills and Sean Morris for sharing their giant Jenga game, and thanks to who attended for sharing their favorite appetizers.



Good Clothes Good People Bin Gone

You may have noticed that the Good Clothes Good People bin is no longer in the narthex. The bin was first brought to Saint Stephen by Mikayla Curtis and her family as a school-affiliated service project in partnership with Wayside Christian Mission. When Mikayla graduated from high school, her brother, Jacob, took over the project, and now he has also graduated. The Curtis family has also moved out of the area, so the bin was removed. If you have clothes that you wish to donate, please take them to an organization like Goodwill. They will be much appreciated there. Thank you.



Calendar of Events at St. Stephen

Wednesday, Sept. 8th—12:30 pm—In-Person Prayer Shawl Group
Sunday, Sept. 12th—9:00 am—Rally Sunday Breakfast
 10:00 am—Social Ministries Collection @ Worship
 11:15 am—Council Meeting
Sunday, Sept. 19th—9:00 am—First Day of Sunday School
 10:00 am—Social Ministries Collection @ Worship
 2:30 pm—SCC Pool Party @ Carol Taylor's
Wednesday, Oct. 6th—12:30 pm—In-Person Prayer Shawl Group
Tuesday, Oct. 19th—2:30 - 6:30 pm—St. Stephen / ARC Blood Drive
Sunday, Oct. 24th—5:30 - 7:30 pm—Halloween Party

Early Fall Deacon Schedule

Sept. 5, Cheryl Markley
 Sept. 12, Kenna Markley
 Sept. 19, Tammy Utley
 Sept. 26, Fred McBride
 Oct. 3, Rod Firquin
 Oct. 10, Cheryl Markley
 Oct. 17, Kenna Markley
 Oct. 24, Fred McBride
 Oct. 31, Tammy Utley

July and August Candle Donors:

July 4th - Matt & Lori Young in honor of Chloe Boerste's birthday
July 11th - Morris family in honor of Reagan Morris' birthday
July 18th - Matt & Lori Young for the glory of God
July 25th - Morris family in honor of Lilly Morris
August 1st - Matt & Lori Young in memory of Lori's dad
August 8th - Markley family in honor of Kenna Markley's birthday
August 15th - McFarland family in honor of Jack McFarland's birthday
August 22nd - Bryce Peterson & Jennifer Summers in honor of Elaine Peterson's birthday
August 29th - Rod & Brenda Firquin in honor of Zachary Firquin's birthday

***The cost to provide the sanctuary candle is \$4.00.**

Early Fall Lector Schedule

Sept. 5, Cheryl Markley
 Sept. 12, Brenda Firquin
 Sept. 19, Pat Markley
 Sept. 26, Susan Johnston
 Oct. 3, Marcia Peterson
 Oct. 10, Paul Kiser
 Oct. 17, Karen Davis
 Oct. 24, Julia Davis
 Oct. 31, Marilyn Mills

God's blessings to these Early Fall birthdays

September

Chuck Ullom	1
Merribeth Waskom	1
Adam Utley	2
Rick Davis	3
Ellerie Seifert	4
Jan Neukam	5
Christian Crume	6
Larry Faue	6
Kimber Miller	8
Evangeline Seifert	8
Paul Kiser	10
Michael Sprowl	11
Cindy Sprowl	13
Adolphus M. Kahn	14
Barry Mills	16
Grace Summers	18
James Clark	22
Buddy Zimmerman	25
Linda Craig	26
Ella Markley	29

October

Gene McCloud	1
Aubrey Clark	2
Nicole Legg	2
Kellye Booker	3
Madeline Allen	5
Jeffrey Davis	9
Pr. Kerri McFarland	10
Regina Warren	10
Brennan Summers	11
Jaina Legg	13
Michelle Malone	14
Bill Whittle	17
Kaitlyn Kiser	18
Connie Clark	22
Stephen Raso	25
Cathy Meyer	27
Matthew Davis	28
Meredyth Peterson	31



We celebrate with all of these couples who have Early Fall anniversaries:

September

Tom & Jan Neukam	(21st/1974)
Pete & Julie Gall	(23rd/1952)
Michael & Beth Lynch	(29th/2012)

October

Larry & Diana Faue	(3rd/2015)
Kellye & Jodi Beckman	(9th/2004)
Charlie & Phyllis Boston	(17th/1959)
Bill & Vivian Wise	(23rd/1965)
Stephen & Jennifer Summers	(28th/1995)

St. Stephen Lutheran Church
5903 Bardstown Road
Fern Creek, Kentucky 40291



Early Fall 2021 St. Stephen Scroll

*Worship Services:
Education Hr 9:00 AM (During school year)
Sunday 10:00 AM*

Due date for next month's newsletter articles is always the 17th of the month before. Send to: secretary.ststephen@gmail.com

