

# 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 Brothers and Sisters in Christ –

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

When our family lived in Indiana, Jack participated in vacation Bible school at our neighborhood church almost every summer. Jack attended VBS at an unfamiliar church filled with unfamiliar people for several reasons.

- #1 – They invited him to come in person (not me – not Jason – but Jack).
- #2 – They made him feel welcome and at home.
- #3 – He had an awesome time singing, crafting, playing, and of course learning more about God's amazing grace and love.

I give God thanks for the blessing of that neighborhood church. They shared the Good News of Jesus with Jack even though he wasn't a member of their church or even of their denomination. And they knew it was highly unlikely that Jack would ever become a member.

Thinking about VBS brings back wonderful memories. I remember riding to VBS in my mom's station wagon, the way my little legs stuck to the vinyl seats, and how hot it was. I remember how excited I was and how excited my brother, cousins, and our friends were. We loved VBS. I remember playing games with Mrs. Seibert, eating cookies, and drinking bug juice in the church yard. I remember singing "Jesus Loves Me" as loudly as we could during the opening, and of course learning more about God's love.

I also remember and give God thanks for the folks who showered me with love – both theirs and God's. I give God thanks for Mrs. Ridgeway, Mrs. Seibert, Mrs. Clawson, Mr. and Mrs. Klein, my own mom, Pastor Stuck and for the others who planned, prepared, and led VBS at Trinity Lutheran Church in Richmond, IN during the 1970's and 80's. They taught me so much about God's love and grace, and they helped me to grow in my Christian faith.

This year VBS at Saint Stephen will be from Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Our theme is Sky: everything is possible with God. We will have supper together followed by singing, activities, Bible stories, snacks, games, and of course lots of fun.

I encourage you to invite a guest or eight to join us for VBS. You don't have to have little ones to bring a child to VBS. Invite a child from the neighborhood or invite a friend's child or grandchild.

May God bless you and keep you today and always.

In Christ –  
*Pastor Kerri*

PS – You are never too old to attend VBS. We would love to have you come as a helper. The more the merrier and the easier the week will be for Tammy.

St. Stephen  
Lutheran Church  
5903 Bardstown Rd.  
Fern Creek, KY 40291

502-239-7778

Email:  
pastorkerri10  
@yahoo.com

**Pastor Kerri M.  
McFarland**  
**Pastor Emeritus,  
Thomas D. Swasko**

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

## 2012 Council Members

**Brenda Firquin,**  
President  
**Rita Sarson,**  
Vice President  
**Cheryl Markley,**  
Council Secretary  
**Rod Firquin,**  
Rec. Secretary (non-voting)  
**Joe Kirschbaum,**  
**Joe Kiser,**  
**Connie Miller,**  
**Bill Thompson,**  
**Tammy Utley,**  
**Herb Warren**  
**Bill Wise,**  
Financial Secretary  
**Buddy Zimmerman,**  
Treasurer  
**Hank Evans,**  
Pianist/Organist  
**Kim Thonen,**  
Custodian  
**Cheryl Markley,**  
Office Secretary  
**secretary-  
ststephen@insightbb.com**

*We are on the web!!  
ststephen-louisville.com*

## Christmas in July

Once again, we will be celebrating Christmas in July at Saint Stephen. On **Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>** at both services we will ignore the soaring temperatures and the blazing sun, and think Christmas-y thoughts. We will sing Christmas carols, hear the Christmas story, celebrate our Savior's birth, and eat delicious Christmas treats. And of course, we hope there will be Christmas presents galore.

**Starting Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>**, you will find Christmas trees with paper ornaments in the narthex. The paper ornaments will have Christmas present ideas written on them. All of these presents will be school supplies for needy children in our community.

You won't need to spend hours locked away in your basement or spare room wrapping these presents before placing them under the Christmas trees. Just bring them in their original packaging. We will make sure your presents are delivered to the Fern Creek/Highview United Ministries in time to bless as many children as possible.

Another wonderful early Christmas present idea would be to pack an Operation Christmas Child shoebox or two. Back to school time is a great time to purchase supplies for these boxes, because of all of the wonderful sales on things like pens, pencils, and notebooks. You will find instructions for packing Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes near the Christmas trees in the narthex.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New School Year!

### School Supply List

Pencils/Erasers  
 Paper towels  
 Hand Sanitizer  
 Facial tissues  
 Calculators  
 Scissors (Fiskars preferred)  
 Glue Sticks  
 Zip-lock Bags (quart/gallon)  
 Highlighters  
 Markers  
 Colored Pencils  
 Steno notebooks  
 Folders (with brads and/or pockets)  
 Composition books  
 Notebooks & dividers  
 Wide Rule Notebook paper  
 Pencil bags  
 Backpacks

## Vacation Bible School

"Sky - Everything is possible with God!" That's the theme for St. Stephen's Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2012, which will be on **July 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>**! Look for registration forms and volunteer sign-up opportunities in the Gathering Area. Don't forget to invite family and friends, **Ages 4 through the completion of 6<sup>th</sup> grade**. As in the past several years, a **light supper will be served for the kids and volunteers from 5:30-6:00 pm, and VBS will run from 6:00-8:30 pm**. Enjoy the summer respite, and we hope to see all of you at VBS!

## Jr Youth Pool Party

The junior youth will be going to the Cooper Farms neighborhood pool after the Christmas in July celebration on **Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**. We will leave from the church between 11:30 am and noon. Everyone who attends should **bring \$7** for admission plus pizza. Parents can pick up their children at 3 pm at the pool. Janet Utecht will provide directions when we are closer to the date. There will be a sign up sheet in the hallway by the office. We may or may not need more drivers, depending on

how many people come. If you have questions, please call Janet, 969-5262. Come and cool off with us! FYI, there is no August youth activity. We will meet again in September.



## Crafting & Fellowship

We will continue our monthly crafting & fellowship time at Saint Stephen on **Friday, July 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm**. So, gather up your crafting materials and friends. Feel free to bring your favorite snack and beverage. We will plan on ordering pizza for supper. If you have questions please contact Pastor Kerri, 239-7778, or Peggy Zimmerman, 239-8595.

## St. Stephen / American Red Cross Blood Drive New Date

**On Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30am-12:30pm** St. Stephen and the American Red Cross will host a blood drive in the fellowship hall. The American Red Cross will arrive at 7:30 am to begin setting up and be ready to take the first donor at 8:30 am. Please take advantage of this time to help others and to share some fellowship with your fellow members. Look for more announcements in the bulletin and a sign up sheet in the Gathering Area. Bring friends!

## 14th Annual Lutheran Family Services Golf Scramble

The 14th Annual Lutheran Family Services Golf Scramble will be held this year on **Saturday, August 4th**, at Valley View Golf Course in Floyds Knobs, IN. Registration and lunch are at 12:00 pm. Tee off is at 1:00 pm. Anyone interested may contact Lutheran Family Services of Kentuckiana (LFSK) at 502-899-5991 for registration or other information. The **registration form needs to be completed and returned to LFSK by July 23rd**:

Rev. Dr. Jeff Romer, LMFT  
Lutheran Family Services  
1864 Frankfort Ave.  
Louisville, KY 40206

If the registration fee is paid in advance, it is **\$75.00 per individual, (\$80.00 if paid on day of event)**. Entry costs include greens fees, cart rental, lunch, and 2 mulligan tokens. The tournament also includes a longest drive contest and a closest to the pin contest with a cash prize.

All proceeds will directly benefit Lutheran Family Services. At LFSK, members of the community can find help from a trained, pastoral, licensed marriage and family therapist who can help with stress-related issues, relationship issues, and individual issues. LFSK also provides workshops and support groups related to a variety of social issues. Consider helping this worthy, 501© 3, not-for-profit organization.

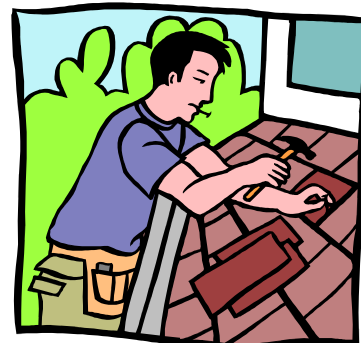


## Prayer Shawl Ministries July 3rd

There is a Prayer Shawl Ministries meeting this month on **Tuesday, July 3rd**. We have lunch, (bring your own), at 12:30 pm, and we will start the meeting at **1:00 pm**. All are welcome. If you need more information, please contact Carolyn Elsing at 502-254-5402.

## Fundraising Opportunity for St. Stephen As You Replace Your Roof

As you can see from our June congregation council minutes, "A" Southern Roofing company has replaced St. Stephen's roof and the roof of our annex property. They have offered to donate \$100 to St. Stephen Lutheran Church in your name, if you agree to have your roof replaced by their company. If you are interested, contact Randall Waldman, 377-0555, for a quote and a donation certificate. Also, we will soon have donation certificates available in the church office. You can contact the church office at 239-7778.



## FCHUM Food Challenge Results

For the benefit of FCHUM, St. Stephen was challenged to provide one food item for each baptized member of our congregation. (We have 255 baptized members.) We came through with a grand total of **374 food items**, all counted and categorized by the 5:00 pm worship service attendees on Simply Serving Sunday. Thanks to all who contributed, categorized, and counted!

## Would you like to choose the hymns?

In the June newsletter, I invited the members of Saint Stephen to help choose the hymns once a month. So far, the only person who responded, was Herb Warren. I put all of the names into a hat this morning and pulled out a name and lo and behold, Herb will be picking the hymns for Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like for your name to be added to the hat please let me know. You can send me an e-mail at [pastorkerri10@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorkerri10@yahoo.com) – leave a note on my desk – or give me a call. I would be delighted to include as many folks as possible in this endeavor.

In Christ –

*Pastor Kerri*

## Simply Serving Sunday Simply Successful!

Thank you to everyone who participated in our very first Simply Serving Sunday. It was a glorious success - even if Pastor Kerri was almost an hour late with the promised pizzas! Many important tasks around the church were completed. The classrooms are wonderfully organized for VBS. The windows sparkle. The kitchen is so orderly it dazzles. The lawn, bushes, and flower beds are ready for an appearance in Better Homes and Gardens - the church edition. 374 items for the Fern Creek/Highview United Ministries were sorted, boxed up, counted, and delivered. There are still several tasks we just didn't have time to complete. So - if you are willing and able - talk to Herb Warren or check out the poster board lists in the Gathering Area for more information on how you might help.

## Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Community Effort (ICE) House Build- Summer 2012

The Interfaith community will again this summer and fall be involved in a Habitat rehab of a home in the western section of downtown Louisville at 3029 River Park Drive. The roof raise is July 27th and 28th. The Lutheran churches have been assigned five (5) weekends to work, in addition to the roof raise. Those weekends are noted below. The roof raise is open to all the faith communities and all are welcomed. I will be putting out an interest sign up in the next weeks and contacting those who are interested in this effort with more information. Youth must be 18 or older to volunteer. We will need non-building volunteers to provide lunch and drinks for some of the weekend work, so there is a need for all to be involved. No construction skills are needed. Professional leaders will be on site to direct and "teach" any skill needed to complete the work for the day. We will also be involved in some fund raising events to assist in financing the rehab. This is a wonderful way to serve the community. You will not only learn some building skills, but you will have opportunity to fellowship with Lutherans from around the city. If you have any questions please contact Rod Firquin.

Weekend Lutheran Schedule for Habitat build- this is a tentative schedule and could change:

August 10-11

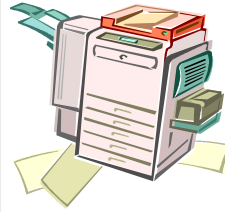
September 15- Saturday only

October 12-13

November 9-10

December 7-8 dedication

## Keep Saving for the Next Church Yard Sale



St. Stephen will be having another yard sale on **Saturday, August 25th**. We will use the proceeds from the sale to start a fund to replace the office copier. It is over 10 years old, and replacement parts are no longer made for the model we have. So, keep saving your items for the sale next month!

## One Million for Jillian Update

Dear Ones in Christ,

I want to report to you the latest on the "pop" tab collection for Jillian.

As of the Monday after the Synod Assembly, the count was calculated to be **2, 243,586!** They did not count ones not given a figure by the donors, but weighed some to come to the figure. I turned in a total of 24,240. Church counts were:

St. Stephen Lutheran.....15,819

Ascension Episcopal... 1,758

Christ Episcopal/Lutheran Chapel...4,364.

The rest were from neighbors, friends, old car club members and myself.

Thanks for the help. The piles of bags and boxes at the Synod Assembly table was overwhelming.

*Pr. George Mercer*

## Note From the Carstens: Send Notes to Patric at "BEAST"

I was hoping that you could get the congregation to help me out with some letters for Patric during Cadet Basic Training at West Point (or "Beast Barracks"). He reports July 2 and will be done with Beast Barracks on August 18th. Beast is as mentally straining on the cadets as it is physically on their bodies. West Point suggests sending as many upbeat, positive letters and notes during those 6 weeks as we can get to him. He just needs something to connect with and have in his mailbox to read when he has a few minutes of time. Just a quick note saying Hi from KY would be an uplift to him. His address will be:

**Cadet Patric Carstens**

**P.O.Box 768**

**West Point, NY 10997**

Please note: no care packages are needed.

Thanks!

Juanita Carstens, secretary

University of Nebraska Athletics



## Second Quarter Social Ministry Collection Results

On the **weekends of May 12th/13th and 19th/20th** at the worship services, special collections were taken for social ministries. A **total of \$645.44** was collected. 75% (**\$484.08**) of these collections were sent to Fern Creek Highview United Ministries while 25% (**\$161.36**) were kept for other social ministry needs. Thanks to those who contributed!

**Remember to  
Sign Up to Mow the Grass!**

**We still have some empty spots!**



*Fern Creek/Highview United Ministries*  
9300 Beulah Church Road  
Louisville, KY 40291  
(502) 762-9608 Central Office (502) 762-9612 Adult Day Center  
(502) 762-9611 Individual & Family Assistance Center

May 29, 2012

St. Stephen Lutheran Church  
5903 Bardstown Rd  
Louisville, KY 40291  
Louisville, KY 40202

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Fern Creek/Highview United Ministries (FC/HUM), I want to officially acknowledge and express our gratitude for your **auction item(s)** in support of our Annual Gala event that took place on Saturday, May 12, 2012. Your support helped us raise over \$26,000. In these challenging economic times we are quite pleased with this year's event. The date for next year's event is Saturday May 11, 2013; we hope that we can once again count on your support.

As you know, FC/HUM, supported in part by twenty-three churches representing twelve different denominations, is a not-for-profit ministry that seeks to meet the needs of people in our community. Funds raised through the GALA go directly to the support of our day-to-day ministries. Our agency operates several programs: our **Individual & Family Assistance Center** serves low income families in crisis, working with families to stabilize their situation and move toward self-sufficiency; **HELP** is our health equipment loan program operating out of the Adult Day Center which loans (free of charge) medical equipment to individuals; **Families In Transition** which works with the Jefferson County Court system and families with children experiencing a divorce; **Meals on Wheels** delivering meals and daily contact to homebound seniors; and, our **Adult Day Center** – a licensed health care facility which serves frail older adults and their families by providing a therapeutic day program that includes supervision, socialization, structured activities, and nutrition and health monitoring. All of our programs stretch limited resources to meet the needs of our community. Your gift to the Fern Creek/Highview United Ministries will be wisely and caringly used to provide services and carry out the mission of our organization.

Once again, thank you for your continued support of our annual Auction & Dinner Gala, helping us to help others.

*God's Peace and Blessings,*

*Rev. Ron Loughry,*  
*Executive Director*

P.S. No goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution.

## St. Stephen Lutheran Church Congregation Council Meeting Minutes

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012

A Quorum was established for the regular meeting of the congregation council.

Meeting was called to order by council president, Brenda Firquin and opening prayer was offered by Pr. Kerri McFarland.

Members present: Connie Miller, Rita Sarson, Tammy Utley, Herb Warren, Joe Kiser, Bill Thompson, Pr. Kerri McFarland, Brenda Firquin, Rod Firquin (recording secretary). Members absent: Cheryl Markley, Joe Kirschbaum, Kenna Markley (youth representative)

Change in meeting agenda: The council president requested a change in the council meeting agenda, moving the Old and New business items to just after the financial reports. Committee reports would follow any new business items. Council agrees to change.

Special Presentation: Pr. McFarland discussed a potential proposal to construct stained glass windows for the windows in the sanctuary. Ken von Roann of Architectural Glass Art, was scheduled to discuss the design with the council, but was unable to attend the meeting. Pr. McFarland will contact the artist to reschedule the presentation at a later date.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the May (held April 23<sup>rd</sup>) were printed in June newsletter. M/S (H. Warren/T. Utley) to accept as printed. Carried.

### **Pastor's Report: Pr. Kerri**

1. Pr. Kerri will be on vacation beginning June 11-17<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Joe Kiser will officiate at weekend services June 16<sup>th</sup>.
2. Pr. Kerri will provide a more in depth report on the KY/IN Synod conference to the congregation and council, but expressed appreciation to Rita and Steve Sarson for attending and representing St. Stephen at the conference. The theme of the conference centered on the concept of why the church exists and what we as members of the church at large should be doing to carry out God's will in the world.

### **President's Report: B. Firquin**

1. Attendance- 14 members, plus one visitor attended the first Sunday evening worship service. The visitor reported to Pr. Kerri that he saw the 5 pm worship time on the sign on the front lawn earlier in the week and came to this service. The council will continue to monitor the attendance at this service with the hopes it will provide opportunity for worship growth.
2. The new computer has been installed and programs/hardware loaded so the office work can continue. The church secretary and council president have been working diligently to get all programs used to support the church's worship, finance, and outreach up and running as quickly as possible and within reasonable costs. So far, things are going smoothly and hopefully all computer systems will be back in working order soon. The church website has been updated with a contact button added. We have been contacted by a visitor using this new addition. If you have not been to the web site recently, please visit and look at updates ([www.ststephen-louisville.com](http://www.ststephen-louisville.com))

### **Financial Reports: P. Markley, B. Zimmerman, B. Wise**

#### **Financial Secretary's Report:**

The March, April, and May reports were provided for the council. (see at the end of the committee reports) M/S- T. Utley/R. Sarson to accept as presented. Carried.

Due to the computer breakdown, there was no Treasurer's report. Mr. Markley reported all bills are up to date and check book has been balanced. Reports for May and June will be provided at the July meeting.

#### **Old Business:**

1. The "simply serving" Sunday service, scheduled for June 24 was discussed. Members are reminded of the format of this service. We will have a brief service and communion, and then we will roll up our sleeves and serve our church and congregation by completing many inside and outside jobs around the church. Lists are being completed and there will be work for everyone, regardless of skill level or age. Please mark this on your calendar and serve with a glad and gracious heart.
2. The council president received in her church mail box a petition signed by members who attend the Saturday 5:00 p.m. service. The petition stated the signed members wished for the Saturday service to continue. No one who signed the petition was present to discuss the issue with the council. After much discussion, the council will contact all who signed the petition and invite any who wish to discuss this with the council to attend the August meeting. No action at this time was taken by the council.

**Church Committee Reports:****Finance: C. Markley**

See financial reports at the end of the committee reports.

**Evangelism: R. Sarson**

1. Four (4) recent high school graduates and one (1) graduate school graduate were sent congratulation cards recognizing their accomplishments.
2. The carnations given to every mother for Mothers' day were donated. Thanks and gratitude from all mothers.
3. Celebration of Pentecost was very successful. Thanks to all who helped decorate the sanctuary.
4. Fathers will be recognized on Father's day, June 17.

**Fellowship: C. Miller**

1. Marilyn Mills has volunteered to fill the vacant fellowship committee chairperson. She is seeking anyone who wishes to help or have ideas for this committee. Please contact her if you are interested and respond positively if asked to assist.
2. VBS- July 9-13, light dinners will be served again. Please watch for a sign up in the Narthex for those who would be willing to provide a dinner for the attendees.
3. Christmas in July is in the planning stages. Watch for information in the coming weeks.
4. The stewardship committee will be hosting a picnic following the Sunday morning service on July 8. At this time the committee will share stewardship information as the church moves into the last half of the year. Please watch for a "pot luck" dish sign up in the next weeks. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided.

**Worship and Music: B. Firquin**

1. If you have not had your new picture made for the membership wall, Michelle Sarson will have her camera at church on June 24 and July 8. Please make yourselves available if you have not already updated your individual or family picture. We want to bring this informational board up to date.
2. Steve and Rita Sarson will be training new communion servers in the coming weeks. If you are a new communion server, please contact Steve or Rita to get information on the training.
3. The committee is working on completing a St. Stephen "user's manual", which will describe the duties of the various service and worship "jobs" around the church. Look for this in the coming weeks.

**Property and Grounds: H. Warren**

1. The recent hail did extensive damage to the roofs of the buildings on the church property. Our insurance carrier has approved replacement of ALL the roofs on all of the buildings on the property, with a total initial replacement cost of \$29,348.00. After meeting with several roofing contractors who are equipped to handle a job of this scope, A Southern Roofing, a local company, has been selected to complete the work. The company has agreed to donate the \$1,000.00 deductible back to the church. Work should begin soon and be completed as not to interfere with any services. Updates as the work moves forward and any future claims due to storm damage will be forthcoming. A Southern Roofing has also offered a \$100 donation to the church in the name of any member who has their roof replaced by this company. To participate, notify A Southern that you would like the \$100 donation to the church in your name. A sample copy of the donation certificate will appear in the July newsletter.

**Christian Education: T. Utley**

1. VBS will be held July 9-13. If you know of a youth who will attend and who has not completed the enrollment information, please contact Tammy Utley as soon as possible.
2. The committee chair informed the council she will be stepping down as Christian education chair when her council term ends in January. If you are interested in this position, please contact Pr. McFarland or Tammy Utley.

**Social Ministry:**

1. Christmas in July will focus on collecting school supplies to be distributed through FCHUM in August and on Operation Christmas Child boxes for our annual drive .
2. Please watch for information on a challenge from FCHUM for canned goods to replenish the food pantry. The supply is low and the need is always growing. All FCHUM churches are being challenged to donate one canned good for each confirmed (255 for St. Stephen) member. The council feels confident St. Stephen will meet and possibly exceed this challenge.
3. The rescheduled Red Cross Blood drive will be July 29. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

**Youth:**

1. The youth will be attending the "Big Daddy Weave" concert at a Louisville Bats baseball game.
2. The Utleys will be hosting a youth campout at their cabin on Rough River. Please contact Tammy Utley for more information.

**Special Committees and Organizations:**

1. Stewardship- this committee is discussing at regular meetings how more members can get involved in the life of the church. The congregation has responded very positively to the finance information, and hopefully, the opportunities to serve in other ways by sharing our God given gifts will also be met with the same response. Look for more information in the coming weeks. Don't forget the picnic on July 8. The committee will be sharing more information on stewardship and returning sealed covenant pledges to each member (or family) who submitted one for this year.

The next meeting of the congregational council will be July 1.

M/S- H. Warren/R. Sarson to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

**Financial Secretary's Report: B. Wise**

<b>March 2012</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Sunday School	41.70	127.00
Church-loose	788.00	3,131.03
Church-envelope	9,530.00	28,484.00
Sub total	10,359.70	31,742.03
Flowers/candles	179.00	384.00
FCHUM	0	737.77
Use of building	175.00	655.00
Reimbursements	0	64.91
Misc.	0	2,153.00
Total	10,713.70	35,736.71
Building fund	719.00	1,248.00

<b>April 2012</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Sunday School	27.30	154.30
Church-loose	2,344.00	5,475.03
Church-envelope	12,936.00	41,420.00
Sub total	15,307.30	47,649.33
Flowers/candles	317.00	701.00
FCHUM	0	737.77
Use of building	190.00	845.00
Reimbursements	0	64.91
Misc.	278.50	2,440.50
Total	16,092.80	51,829.51
Building fund	792.00	2,040.00

<b>May 2012</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Sunday School	34.25	188.55
Church-loose	1,058.00	6,533.03
Church-envelopes	8,384.00	49,804.00
Flowers/candles	220.00	921.00
FCHUM	645.00	1,382.97
Use of building	940.00	1,785.00
Reimbursement	2.89	67.80
Misc.	113.00	2,553.50
Total	11,397.84	63,227.35
Building fund	2,896.00	4,936.00





## Stewardship Perspective and Picnic Reminder

I am writing to you as the St. Stephen financial chair and as a member of the stewardship committee. As the financial chair, I spend a lot of time either rejoicing over or worrying about St. Stephen's ability to continue to pay its bills. It is tedious to write and to listen to financial updates every month, but it is one of the measures of our church's success, like it or not. It is a reflection of the financial health of our members, but more importantly, it is a reflection of how we feel about our church, its mission, our fellow members, our leadership, and our church's ministry.

Last year before the stewardship campaign, we appeared to be in dire straights with respect to the rapid decline in St. Stephen's mortgage fund. It was a relief to share St. Stephen's financial position with other members so that we could all share the burden of that reality. It was an even bigger relief to see the positive response that resulted. Everyone needs to be thanked for their commitment to the church, and I hope that the trend continues, especially through the summer. I hope that we can also make it possible to pay our benevolence contribution to the synod. We have not been able to the benevolence contribution expected of a church our size since we started paying the current mortgage.

I find that making a financial contribution to the church makes me feel like a part of the church family, which also means that I feel like I need to contribute to the work of our church family. There are many ways that that members can serve. I have served as a worship server, a council member, and a finance committee member among other jobs. There are jobs for everyone. If we generously share the work of the church, no single person should be overburdened, and there should be a job for everyone.

On **Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Stewardship Picnic after the 10:00 am worship service**, you will have the opportunity to sign up for some of those needed jobs within the church. We will have time and talent forms available and plenty of people to answer questions about jobs on the list. In addition, you will receive your 2012 six-month offering statement along with your sealed covenant pledge (if you returned one) so that you may check the progress of your personal financial contribution. The Stewardship Committee will provide the hot dogs and drinks. We are asking you to bring a side dish or dessert. Please see the sign up sheet in the Gathering Area so that we will know how many hot dogs to buy. See you there!

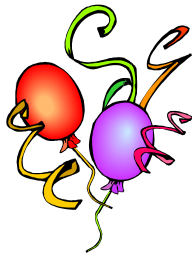
*Pat Markley*

## July 2012 Servants of the Church

<b>Sunday - 5 p.m.</b>					
	<b>7/01/12</b>	<b>7/08/12</b>	<b>7/15/12</b>	<b>7/22/12</b>	<b>7/29/12</b>
<b>Lector</b>	Rev. Tom Swasko	Needed	Needed	Needed	Rev. Tom Swasko
<b>Deacon</b>	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed
<b>Greeter(s)</b>	Needed	Rev. Tom Swasko	Needed	Rev. Tom Swasko	Needed
<b>Sunday - 10:00 a.m.</b>					
	<b>7/01/12</b>	<b>7/08/12</b>	<b>7/15/12</b>	<b>7/22/12</b>	<b>7/29/12</b>
<b>Lector</b>	Marty Mercer	Toni Wells	Connie Miller	Cheryl Markley	Pat Markley
<b>Ushers</b>	Pat Markley Marty Mercer	Steven Sarson Rita Sarson	Joe Kiser Chuck Ullom	Bill Whittle Barry Mills	Rod Firquin Brenda Firquin
<b>Acolytes</b>	Kaitlyn Kiser	Sophia Samora	Bailey Goebel	Cole Summers	Hanna Allen
<b>Communion Table</b>	Jason McFarland Jack McFarland	Kay Bunner Herb Warren	J. Kirschbaum Michelle Sarson	Steve Sarson Rita Sarson	Paul Kiser Kaitlyn Kiser
<b>Communion Deacon</b>	Cheryl Markley	Rev. Joe Kiser	Steven Sarson	Rod Firquin	Kay Bunner
<b>Nursery</b>	Jennifer Kiser	Mary Ann Bravo	Cheryl Markley	Connie Miller	C. Kirschbaum
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Pat Markley	Rita Sarson	Herb Warren	Brenda Firquin	Rod Firquin
<b>Greeter(s)</b>	George Mercer	Vivian Wise	Ellen Ullom	Mills	George Mercer
<b>For this season:</b>	<b>before 07/08</b>	<b>before 07/15</b>	<b>before 07/22</b>	<b>before 07/29</b>	<b>before 08/05</b>
<b>Grass Mowing</b>	Needed	Needed	Morris	Rod Firquin	Needed

### God's blessing to these July birthdays:

Maxine Swasko	3	Marty Mercer	14	Melody Harrel	30
Jennifer Summers	5	Marie Pfau	14		
Reagan Morris	6	Herb Warren	16		
Patricia Hayden	12	Herb Edwards	17		
Tammy Utley	12	Peggy Zimmerman	17		
George Morris	13	Ethan Troutman	23		
Kaitlyn Morrow	13	Rick Edwards	24		
Sabrina Samora	13	Lilly Morris	25		
Pat Waskom	13	Stacy Simpson	28		



### We celebrate with these couples having July anniversaries:



Tom & Maxine Swasko	(1st/2000)
Matt & Lori Young	(2nd/1994)
Charles & Valerie Ziemba	(11th/1959)
Gregg & Deb Leard	(20th/1985)
Jeff & Rhonda Troutman	(24th/1993)

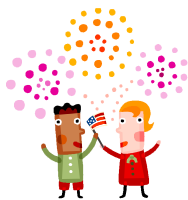
## June Sanctuary Flower and Candle Donors

### June Sanctuary Flower Donors

3rd - George & Marty Mercer in honor of Ruth Mercer's birthday  
 10th - George & Marty Mercer in honor of their 50th anniversary  
 17th—Jack McFarland in honor of Pr. Kerri & Jason McFarland's anniversary  
 24th—The Kiser family in honor of Judy Kiser's birthday  
 \*The cost to provide altar flowers is \$20.00.

### June Sanctuary Candle Donors

10th - Elaine Peterson in honor of Adam Peterson's birthday  
 17th - Jack McFarland in honor of Pr. Kerri & Jason McFarland's anniversary  
 24th—Herb & Regina Warren in honor of Jonathon Warren's birthday  
 \*The cost to provide the sanctuary candle is \$2.00.



# July 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b> 10:00—Holy Communion 5:00—Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> 12:30—Prayer Shawl Group</p>	<p><b>4</b> <b>The church office is closed for the holiday.</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> 8:30—Weight Watchers</p>
<p><b>8</b> 10:00—Holy Communion 11:30—<b>Stewardship Picnic</b> 5:00—Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> 10:00—Ladies Bible Study</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b> 8:30—Weight Watchers</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                 Vacation Bible School: “<i>Sky - Everything is possible with God!</i>”                  Light supper (5:30 - 6pm) followed by VBS (6:00 - 8:00 pm)                  Ages 4 through completion of 6th grade             </div>						
<p><b>15</b> 10:00—Holy Communion 5:00—Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 6:00—Finance Committee</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> 8:30—Weight Watchers</p>
<p><b>22</b> 10:00—Holy Communion 11:30—<b>X-mas in July</b> 11:30—<b>Jr. Youth Pool Party</b> 5:00—Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b> 5:00—<b>Ronald McDonald House</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b> 4:00 - 8:00—<b>Crafting &amp; Fellowship</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> 8:30—Weight Watchers</p>
						<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">                 H for H ICE House                  Roof Raise                  8:30 am - 3:30 pm             </div>
<p><b>29</b> 8:30 - 12:30—<b>Blood Drive</b> 10:00—Holy Communion 5:00—Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>Upcoming Events:</b>  <b>August 5th</b>—Congregation Council  <b>August 25th</b>—St. Stephen Yard Sale                 </div>			

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



*Worship Services:*  
*Education Hr (during school yr) 9:00 AM*  
*Sunday 10:00 AM*  
*Sunday 5:00 PM*

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



# July 2012 St. Stephen Scroll

<b>August 2012 Servants of the Church</b>					
<b>Sunday - 5 p.m.</b>	<b>8/05/12</b>	<b>8/12/12</b>	<b>8/19/12</b>	<b>8/26/12</b>	<b>9/02/12</b>
<b>Lector</b>	Needed	Needed	Needed	Rev. Tom Swasko	Needed
<b>Deacon</b>	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed
<b>Worship Coord.</b>	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed
<b>Greeter(s)</b>	Rev. Tom Swasko	Needed	Rev. Tom Swasko	Needed	Rev. Tom Swasko
<b>Sunday - 10:00</b>	<b>8/05/12</b>	<b>8/12/12</b>	<b>8/19/12</b>	<b>8/26/12</b>	<b>9/02/12</b>
<b>Lector</b>	Steven Sarson	J. Kirschbaum	Ellen Ullom	Herb Warren	Rod Firquin
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim Brotzge Buddy Zimmerman	Herb Warren Tom Curtis	J. Kirschbaum Pat Markley	Steven Sarson Rita Sarson	Rev. Joe Kiser Chuck Ullom
<b>Acolyte</b>	Kenna Markley	Mikayla Curtis	Kaitlyn Kiser	Sophia Samora	Bailey Goebel
<b>Comm. Table</b>	Paul Kiser Kayleigh Kiser	Charlie Boston Phyllis Boston	B. Zimmerman P. Zimmerman	Jason McFarland Jack McFarland	Kay Bunner Herb Warren
<b>Comm. Deacon</b>	Cheryl Markley	Rev. Joe Kiser	Steven Sarson	Kay Bunner	Rod Firquin
<b>Nursery</b>	Toni Wells	Jennifer Kiser	Cheryl Markley	Connie Miller	C. Kirschbaum
<b>Worship Coord.</b>	Paul Kiser	Pat Markley	Rita Sarson	Herb Warren	Brenda Firquin
<b>Greeter(s)</b>	Ellen Ullom	Mills	George Mercer	Ellen Ullom	Mills
<b>For this season:</b>	<b>before 08/12</b>	<b>before 08/19</b>	<b>before 08/26</b>	<b>before 09/02</b>	<b>before 09/09</b>
<b>Grass Mowing</b>	Kiser/Summers	Morris	Needed	Needed	Kiser/Summers