

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 –

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

“Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.” – Hebrews 13:1-2

A few months ago *The Lutheran* magazine – now called *Living Lutheran* – featured an article called “All are Welcome” which was about the best ways and some of the worst ways we welcome visitors in our Christian communities. The basic premise of the article was churches say everyone is welcome, but we do not always put those words into practice. Sometimes our actions contradict our words.

I do believe Saint Stephen is a warm, friendly, welcoming community of faithful Christians. We have visitor bags with information about Saint Stephen and the ELCA, friendly ushers, and welcoming greeters. I have received compliments from visitors and colleagues over the years who let me know you made them feel welcome when they visited, but none of us are perfect and no church is perfect either. We can all grow in our practice of Christian hospitality.

Since reading this article I have been watching and observing us in action as we gather for worship and social events. Beyond the noisy chatter, laughter, and smiles – I have noticed most of us talk to the same people each week before worship. During the passing of the peace many of us also share the peace with the same people week after week. We tend to sit with the same people during coffee fellowship each week. When our newest members and visitors join us for coffee fellowship, they often end up sitting quietly by themselves or with their own family members while the rest of us laugh, visit, and talk with the people we know best.

I agree it is wonderful to have dear friends at church. It is a blessing to catch up with the folks we have come to love over the years, but we should also be open to welcoming new people into our lives and hearts. This month I would like for all of us to think more about hospitality and to consider the following questions:

Do you assume someone else like Pastor Kerri or the assigned greeter has welcomed our visitors? (After all – greeting is their assigned job!)

Do you ever speak to our visitors or to our newest members?

Do you share the peace with visitors?

Continued on next page...

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

502-239-7778

Email:
pastorkerri
@gmail.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.*

2016 Council Members

Rod Firquin,
President
Buddy Zimmerman,
Vice President
Cheryl Markley,
Council Secretary
Julia Davis
Larry Faue
Paul Kiser
Connie Miller
Michelle Sarson
Duane Steines
Kenna Markley,
(youth rep, non-voting)

Bill Wise,
Financial Secretary
Buddy Zimmerman,
Treasurer
Hank Evans,
Pianist/Organist
Kim Thonen,
Custodian
Cheryl Markley,
Office Secretary
**secretary.ststephen
@gmail.com**

***Check out
the website!***

ststephen-louisville.com

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Have you taken the time to introduce yourself to our newest members?

Do you ever sit with someone new during coffee hour or during one of our social gatherings at church?

Do you smile at strangers or offer them a quick tour of our church?

We are all called to welcome everyone in Christ's name. Just saying everyone is welcome at Saint Stephen isn't enough. We must actually be welcoming.

In Christ –
Pastor Kerri



“The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the stranger as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.” – Leviticus 19:34



The FCHUM “*PENNIES FROM HEAVEN*” Gala Auction & Dinner is almost here!

Saturday, May 14th, St. Gabriel Catholic Church @ 6:30 PM

Join us for fellowship, dinner served by Pastor Kerri,
and wonderful entertainment.

Tables are set for 8. Let's come together and fill a few tables
to support Fern Creek/Highview United Ministries, (FCHUM)!
See Michelle Sarson, (502) 303-0896, to order tickets, **\$25 each.**

Big Band Supper Club

A number of you have been asking, “When is the next Big Band Supper Club??” We are happy to tell you the wait is over! It has been scheduled for Saturday, May 21st. The evening's theme will be, “*Big Band Music*”. Even though Hank is no longer with us on Sundays, he is still going to provide the evening's music, along with some of his wonderfully talented friends. If you have attended any of the Supper Club evenings, you know the music will be special!

As with the first evening, plans are underway to transform our Fellowship Hall into a wonderful “Supper Club” venue! Our first Big Band Supper Club was held in September, 2014, and proved to be one of the coolest, most wonderful nights in recent memory.

We will be asking for volunteers to contribute some of the food items. Look for a signup sheet in the Narthex. The cost to attend is \$10.00 per person through Sunday, May 15th and \$12 at the door to help defray the cost of our festivities.

Put on your most festive attire (flapper dresses welcome!), invite your family and friends, and join in the fun for a great time! There will be dancing, laughter, great food, and best of all, incredible music. Feel free to bring your own libation!

Mark your calendar now!

May 21st, 6:30 – 9:00 pm
Big Band Supper Club

Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Breakfast

There is no Sunday school on **May 22nd**. Instead, we will celebrate our Sunday school teachers at the annual Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Breakfast starting at **9:00 am in the fellowship hall**. If you intend to celebrate with us, please sign up in the narthex so that we will know how many are coming. Also, please note that we will not have coffee hour on this day. Join us for breakfast instead. We will honor the following teachers:

Preschool & Kindergarten—Peggy Zimmerman and Elaine Peterson

1st-3rd Grade—Kenna Markley, Sean Morris, and Marilyn Mills

4th-6th Grade—Tammy Utley

Confirmation—Glenn Eisenbrey

High School—Paul Kiser

Adult—Pastor Kerri

See you there!



Geraniums for Pentecost

We are again using pots of red geraniums to decorate the worship space for the **Pentecost worship services on May 15th**. We have ordered 30 geraniums in advance. If you would like to honor or memorialize your loved ones, you may sign up in the narthex to donate one or more geraniums. **The cost per pot is \$10**. You may pick up

your geraniums after the worship services. You can put your check or envelope in the offering plate with a note that states "geraniums". **Please sign up before Monday, May 9th**. Thank you in advance for your help and your donations!

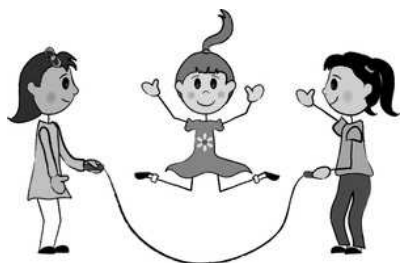


Celebrate With The Confirmands

Please join us in celebrating with **Rachel Utecht, Adam Peterson, and Brennan Summers** on **Sunday, May 15th**, at the 10:00 worship service as they affirm their Christian faith on their Confirmation Sunday. Join us for coffee hour after the morning worship service. Congratulations!

Youth Activity

The Morris family will be hosting the youth activity for St. Stephen Youth, **4th grade and up**, this month. They hope to have an activity for May 22nd. Watch your bulletins and listen to announcements for details. Also, check the bulletin board outside the church office for a sign-up sheet soon.



Golden Sneakers Will Visit the Speed Museum

Bill & Vivian Wise, 239-1162, will host the Golden Sneakers activity this month. They hope to arrange a visit to the newly-renovated Speed Art Museum, (502-634-2700), at 2035 S 3rd Street on Wednesday, May 18th. Admission is \$8 for seniors, and there is a free Highlights Tour at 1 pm. There is a parking garage adjacent to the museum on 3rd Street.

Look for more information in your bulletins, and look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex soon.



2nd Qtr Social Ministry Collection

Our 2nd quarter social ministry collections will be held on **May 8th and 15th**. 50% is for the Fern Creek/ Highview United Ministries (FCHUM) and 50% is for St. Stephen's social ministry fund. Please help us replenish our ability to help the local community. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

New Member Sunday

I have heard from some wonderful folks who would like to join Saint Stephen so I am thrilled to announce that I am planning a new member Sunday for **Sunday, May 22nd**. If you aren't a member of Saint Stephen and would like to make your relationship with us official please let me know. The more the merrier and the greater the blessings to us all!

Pastor Kerri

Yard Sale Date Has Been Set

We are having a church yard sale on **Saturday, June 18th**

So,

Clean up those crammed closets.



Clear out those cluttered cabinets and cupboards.



Straighten up those stray items.



If you don't want it anymore, we do.



For now, just set items aside in your household for us.

Please don't bring your items until May 23rd.

We will collect them through June 13th so that we have time to price them.

Remember to Wear Red!

Red represents the flames of the Holy Spirit that touched the disciples and other followers gathered for the day of Pentecost noted in Acts, Chapter 2. In this way, the Holy Spirit enabled them to speak to the crowd in their native languages so that they could spread the good news of Jesus Christ. Please remember to wear red on **Pentecost, May 15th**, to help us remember this event and remember to spread the Good News ourselves.

When You Are Away...

Vacation season is coming, but we don't want you to forget us and the fact that we still need to keep the lights on, even when you are not here. Please remember to send your offering when you are away. Thanks in advance for your continued support! As a reminder, our address is

**5903 Bardstown Rd
Louisville, KY 40291**



Send a Spring Greeting to Our Shut-ins

Our Saint Stephen shut-ins would sure like to hear from you! Our current list includes Liz Chapman, Nancy Davidson, Lucile Duke, Andrea Eshenaur, Marie Pfau, Norma Steiner, Tom & Maxine Swasko, Catherine Thonen, and Rueben Zander. You can find their addresses in the directories in the narthex.

St. Stephen / American Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross has a great need for donated blood during the summer months. We will be helping them out with a blood drive at St. Stephen on **Tuesday, June 21st, from 2:30 to 6:30 pm**. Later in May, look for a sign up sheet in the narthex. You might just save a life!

Vacation Bible School Coming in July

"Barnyard!" is the theme for St. Stephen's Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2016! **VBS will be Sunday, July 10th through Thursday, the 14th**, so look for registration forms and volunteer sign-up opportunities in the narthex soon. The shift in days from Monday through Friday to Sunday through Thursday seemed to work well last year, so we are doing it again this year. Don't forget to invite family and friends, **Ages 4 through the completion of 6th grade**. **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, and we hope to see all of you at VBS!

We still need supplies for props!

We are now collecting materials to build and paint props for VBS. We still need

- **White flat sheets**
- **Paint - red, green, yellow, brown, black, blue**

If you can supply any of these items, please see Julia Davis, 850-454-6246, or Pastor Kerri.

Congratulations, Graduates!

We congratulate our 2016 high school graduates at St. Stephen:

Bailey Marie Goebel is graduating from Central High School and will be attending Sweet Briar College in Virginia in the fall doing pre-veterinary studies.

Kenna Grace Markley is graduating from Ballard High School and will start at Morehead State University in June to pursue a double major in Elementary Education and Math.

Cole Stephen Summers is graduating from Jeffersontown High School. He represented Jefferson County in "Precision Machining Technology" in the 2016 Skills USA Kentucky Competition. He competed against other future machinists across the state of Kentucky and won first place. He will begin at Jefferson Community Technical College in the fall to further his career as a machinist.

Adam Wayne Utley is graduating from Atherton High School and will be attending University of Louisville in the fall as a pre-business major.

Best wishes on your endeavors after high school!

We also congratulate two 2016 Saint Stephen college graduates:

Matthew Peterson is graduating from the University of Kentucky (UK) with a degree in Business Management. He will be an officer in the Army after graduation. Congratulations and best of luck in your career!

Kellye Firquin is graduating in August from the University of Kentucky with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy. Kudos and best of luck in the working world!



First Communion Classes

First Communion classes will be offered this spring if any of our families are interested. If you would like for your child to participate in these classes, or you have any questions please contact Pastor Kerri 239-7778 or pastorkerri@gmail.com.

Directory Update and Birthdays and Anniversaries

Soon, we will begin the process of updating the Saint Stephen address, phone, and e-mail directory. The latest contact information that we have will be posted in the narthex for your review. Please take a look at it and make any needed corrections or additions. If your information is accurate, please mark "OK" next to it. Also, if you have college students with new addresses, please feel free to write their new contact information on the posted sheets in the narthex. If you are new to St. Stephen and you do not see your information, please either write it on the sheets in the narthex, or contact the office, 239-7778. If you are not yet a member but attend St. Stephen often and would like your contact information in the directory, please add it to these sheets.

Also, we do keep track of birthdays and anniversaries too so that they may be printed in the bulletins and newsletters. If you have not shared those dates for all of your family members with the church office, please call 239-7778 or send an e-mail to secretary.ststephen@gmail.com. Also, please let us know if you have seen a mistake in the dates that we have printed. We will be happy to make the corrections. Thanks for your help!

Creative Hands Bake Sale and T-shirt Adoption

The bake sale held on April 17th for the Creative Hands Sew Group raised **\$252.50**. At the same time, **\$25** was collected for the “adoption” of T-shirts for making T-shirt dresses for needy girls. Thank you to all who contributed! The T-shirts that have not yet been “adopted” will remain in the narthex for now, awaiting donors.



ELCA World Hunger Campaign Results

We have just completed the ELCA World Hunger and ELCA Disaster Response Campaign at Saint Stephen this year. We collected:

- 1. \$309 in the 2016 Buck-a-Chick program.**
- 2. \$71.96 in the pig-shaped coin boxes.**
- 3. \$230 in pew envelopes.**

for a grand total of **\$610.96** at Saint Stephen this year. Thank you to all who participated in this world-wide campaign.

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Congregation Council Minutes April 10, 2016

Minutes of the April Congregation Council meeting are available to members in the emailed copy or printed copy of the May 2016 newsletter. If you did not receive them and would like to request a copy, please notify the Church Secretary at secretary.ststephen@gmail.com

May 2016 Servants of the Church

Sunday - 10 a.m.	5/01/16	5/08/16	5/15/16	5/22/16	5/29/16
Lector	Ellen Ullom	Rod Firquin	Fred McBride	Judy McBride	Karen Davis
Ushers	Steven Sarson Rita Sarson	Glenn Eisenbrey Carolyn Graham	Pat Markley Andy Morris	Bill Wise Vivian Wise	Rod Firquin Adolphus Kahn
Acolyte	Caroline Zimmerman	Lilly Morris	Jack McFarland	Brennan Summers	Lucy Zimmerman
Communion Table	Paul Kiser Kayleigh Kiser	Marilyn Mills Phyllis Boston	Madeline Allen Buddy Zimmerman	Peggy Zimmerman Nicole Legg	Marcia Peterson Sarah Giles
Commun. Deacon	Bob Meyer	Rod Firquin	Kenna Markley	Cheryl Markley	Steven Sarson
Nursery	Connie Miller	Cheryl Markley	Elizabeth Seifert	Teta Thompson	Jessica Allen
Cantor	Bob Meyer	Paul Kiser	Bill Wise	Karen Eisenbrey	Fred McBride
Worship Coord.	Brenda Firquin	Paul Kiser	Pat Markley	Rita Sarson	Rod Firquin
Greeter(s)	Jan Wilkins	Darlene Clark	Bill & Vivian Wise	Carolyn Graham	Teta Thompson
Coffee Hr Host(s)	Ulloms	Needed	Confirmation Parents	Teacher Appreciation Breakfast	See you in the Fall!
For this season:	before 05/08	before 05/15	before 05/22	before 05/29	before 06/05
Grass Mowing	Needed	Needed	Sean & Andy Morris	Needed	Needed

Don't forget to sign up to mow!



May council meeting date is moved due to Mother's Day. It will be on May 15th following the 10:00 am service this month.

Coffee Hour Host(s) Needed for May 8th!



God's Blessings to these May birthdays:

Jason McFarland	2	Hank Zimmerman	16	Duane Steines	25
Peter Eisenbrey	8	Andrew Hoke	17	Erin Zimmerman	25
Ellen Ullom	8	Florence Loy	17	Matthew Collini	30
Matthew Peterson	10	Kim Williams	18	Emily Goebel	
Mario Samora	12	Brade Zimmerman	18		30
Renate Wiedewitsch	13	Michael Craig	22	Michelle Sarson	31
Gary Reynolds	16	Tracy Fajardo	24	Rachel Utecht	31

We celebrate with this couple having a May anniversary:

Bob & Cathy Meyer (13th/1972)



April Sanctuary Flower and Candle Donors

April Sanctuary Flower Donors

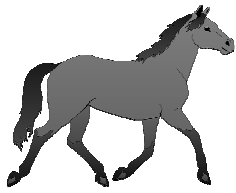
3rd - Carolyn Graham for the Glory of God
10th - Barry & Marilyn Mills in honor & memory of their parents
24th - Connie Clark in honor of Daemon Schultz' 2nd birthday

***The cost to provide altar flowers is \$20.00.**

April Sanctuary Candle Donors

3rd - McFarland family for the Glory of God
10th - Kim Thonen in honor of Amanda Thonen's birthday
17th - Duane & Deb Steines in memory of Marie Steines
24th - Connie Clark in honor of Daemon Schultz' 2nd birthday

***The cost to provide the sanctuary candle is \$2.00.**



May 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00—Education Hr 10:00—Holy Communion 11:30—Coffee Hr 11:30—Fellowship Committee 5:00—Holy Communion	2	3 9:00 - 2:00— Fairview Homemakers 12:30—Prayer Shawl Group 6:30—Worship & Music Committee, 6:30—Christian Education Committee	4 6:30—Choir Rehearsal	5 9:00 - 2:00— Fairview Homemakers	6 Oaks Office closed.	7 Derby 8:30—Weight Watchers
8 Mothers' Day, Social Ministries Collection 9:00—Education Hr 10:00—Holy Communion 11:30—Coffee Hr 5:00—Holy Communion	9 6:00—Creative Hands Sew Group	10 9:00 - 2:00— Fairview Homemakers	11 6:30—Choir Rehearsal	12 9:00 - 2:00— Fairview Homemakers	13	14 8:30—Weight Watchers 6:30—FCHUM Pennies From Heaven Gala @ St. Gabriel's
15 Pentecost, Social Ministries Collection 9:00—Education Hr 10:00—Holy Communion, Confirmation 11:30—Coffee Hr 11:30—Council	16	17	18 Time? - Golden Sneakers go to Speed Museum 6:30—Choir Rehearsal	19	20	21 8:30—Weight Watchers 6:30 - 9:00 - Big Band Supper Club
22 Ronald McDonald House Collection 9:00—Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Breakfast 10:00—Holy Communion 11:30—Youth Activity 5:00—Holy Communion	23	24 4:30—Ronald McDonald House Visit	25 6:30—Choir Rehearsal	26	27	28 8:30—Weight Watchers
29 10:00—Holy Communion 5:00—Holy Communion	30	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Upcoming Events: June 18th—St. Stephen Yard Sale June 21st—St. Stephen Blood Drive July 10th-14th—St. Stephen Vacation Bible School </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 articles is always the 17th of the month before. Send to:
 secretary.ststephen@gmail.com

May 2016

St. Stephen Scroll



June 2016 Servants of the Church					
Sunday - 10 a.m.	6/05/16	6/12/16	6/19/16	6/26/16	7/03/16
Lector	Sean Morris	Elizabeth Seifert	Julia Davis	Susan Johnston	Bob Meyer
Ushers	Fred McBride Teta Thompson	Tom Curtis Jacob Curtis	Steven Sarson Rita Sarson	B. Zimmerman Barry Mills	Jim Clark Glenn Eisenbrey
Acolyte	Ella Markley	Rachel Utecht	Kayleigh Kiser	Ellerie Seifert	Peace Kahn
Communion Table	Cole Summers Jennifer Summers	Sean Morris Kaitlyn Kiser	Wendi Morris Reagan Morris	Adolphus Kahn Teta Thompson	Michelle Sarson Deb Steines
Commun. Deacon	Tammy Utley	Bob Meyer	Rod Firquin	Cheryl Markley	Steven Sarson
Nursery	Morgan McCauley	Jennifer Kiser	Elaine Peterson	Carol Ochs	Connie Miller
Cantor	Bob Meyer	Paul Kiser	Fred McBride	Karen Eisenbrey	Bill Wise
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For this season:	before 06/12	before 06/19	before 06/26	before 07/03	before 07/10
Grass Mowing	Needed	Needed	Sean & Andy Morris	Needed	Needed

