

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

One of 13,000 Stephen Ministry Congregations Around the World

We believe that community is *beautiful* and *messy* and *fulfilling* and *conflicted* and...the POINT. God calls us together into community for the sake of one another, our neighbors, and creation. We don't always get it right, but we trust that when we center the love and grace that Jesus taught, we will get it right more often than not. *You are welcome here!* We don't expect perfect, put-together people; we don't want you to conform to us and our ways; we want you to show up as who you are and to experience the love and grace of God as we have experienced it. And we hope that once you do, you will join us in sharing it with others too.

13th Sunday after Pentecost August 18, 2024

For Your Prayers -Aug 19-25, 2024

Lectionary readings for this week:

Monday: Genesis 43:1-15 Acts 6:1-7 Psalm 36 *Tuesday*: Genesis 45:1-15 Acts 7:9-16 Psalm 36

Wednesday: Genesis 47:13-26 Mark 8:14-21 Psalm 36

Thursday: Joshua 22:1-9 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Psalm 34:15-22

Friday Joshua 22:10-20 Romans 13:11-14 Psalm 34:15-22 *Saturday*: Joshua 22:21-34 Luke 11:5-13 Psalm 34:15-22

Next Sunday's Lessons Exodus 19:1-6 Psalm 12 (6) 1 Corinthians 12:27-31a

John 1:43-51

<u>Join your prayers for healing</u> with God's desires for Trudi Arnold, Karen Bailey, Ed Brown, Steve Bushman, Kristin Carter, Jack Harris, Sharon Jacobs, Jim Mayfield, Carol Meyer and Helen Nelsen

<u>Pray for those unable to come to worship</u>: Martin Bleck, Ed Brown, Birdie Burton, York Doerr, Bob and Angie Groom, Pat Janot, Marilyn Johnson, Jeanne Nelson, Darlene Simon, and Kay Wasaff.

Pray for these loved ones of our congregation: Bob Alt, Donald and Carol Baum, Rose Baumgarten, Sally Blackburn, June Brantley, Sharon Brown, Linda Bonfiglio, Mary Bloom, Amy Carl, Karin Cavanaugh, Ruth Ann Coski, Judy Craun, Sophia Czajkowski, Judy Drezek, Martin Flatin, David Gade, Greg Gildner, Joan Goodhart, Sue Hassan and family, Nick Havola, Bradley Kim Joan and Laurie Heintzelman, Char Henry, Lisa Hill, Jaxon Ireland, The Jacobs Family, Brian Johnson, Don Johnson, Connie Kendrick, The Kennedy family, Marnah Lund, Trish and Matthew Macerelli, Laura Margolin, Jack Mayfield, The Keith Meins family, Liz Montalvo, Becky Murphy, Ed Moninger, Bob Myers, Silvana Oderisi, Denise Ogborn, Lori Ogborn, Betty Roth, Kurtis Schultz, Lou Schuster, Chad Strausbaugh, Charley Underdahl, Brenda Webster and Caleb Winig.

13th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Welcome

Centering Music Schmucke Dich, O Liebe Seele (From Cantata No 180) J.S.Bach

Call to Worship (inspired by Ephesians 4:25 – 5:2 and John 6, written by Thom Shuman, on http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca)
In these moments, in this family of faith,
the God of gentleness gathers us together:
hoping that our self-righteous anger
might become passionate justice for others.

In this place, in that Body shaped by his grace, Christ, the Bread of life, calls us to service: hoping our comfort level of complacency might be transformed into compassion for the needy all around us.

In our hearts, our mouths, our actions, the Spirit of holiness gifts us with truth: hoping our faltering, fumbling words might be transfigured into good news.

Gathering Prayer (by Christine Longhurst, re:Worship, based on Psalm 145:15-16, Isaiah 55:1-3, John 6:35) Lord, the eyes of all look to You in hope; and You give them what they need. You open Your hand and satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing. We, too, turn to You again, longing to be filled—to eat of the Bread of Life, to drink from Your life-giving streams, to taste Your goodness and live.

May the time we spend together in Your presence nourish our hearts and minds; may it strengthen our relationship with You, and renew our commitment to live in this world as Your faithful disciples.

For You alone are God, the Source and Sustainer of life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

ELW 488

Bulletin page 11

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.**

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

First Reading Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.

¹Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. ²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. ³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, ⁴"You that are simple, turn in here!" To those without sense she says, ⁵"Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. ⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight."

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

Psalm 34:9-14

Taste and see that the LORD is good.

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints | of the LORD, for those who fear the | LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰The lions are in want and | suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing | that is good. *Refrain*

¹¹Come, children, and lis- | ten to me;

I will teach you reverence | for the LORD.

12Who among you takes plea- | sure in life and desires long life to en- | joy prosperity?

¹³Keep your | tongue from evil and your lips from | lying words.

14Turn from evil | and do good; seek peace | and pursue it. *Refrain*

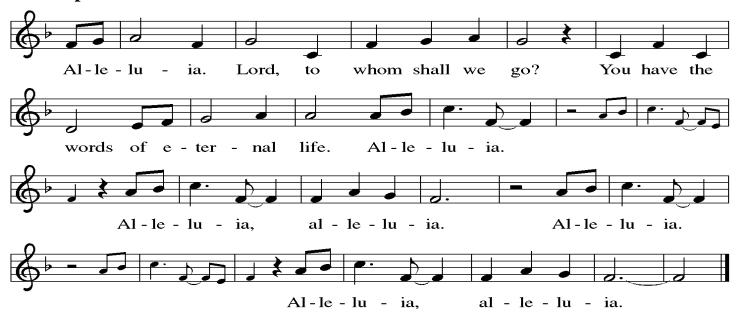
Second Reading Ephesians 5:15-20

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel John 6:51-58

In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion. Response after announcement of the Gospel: "Glory to you, O Lord."

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." ⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

Sermon Walk in the Way of Insight Pastor Jon Nelson Silence for prayer and reflection.

Hymn of the Day I am the Bread of Life ELW 485 Bulletin page 12

Prayers

Each petition concludes, "In your mercy," Response: "hear our prayer."

III. Meal: God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering

Offerings are gathered for the mission of the church: preaching and teaching the good news of our salvation through the death and resurrection of Christ, and caring for the poor. During the offering, the table is set for the Lord's Supper.

Offering of Music O Bread of Heaven Cesar Franck, arr. Susan Palo Cherwien Branch Fields, Bass Soloist



Offertory Prayer

Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

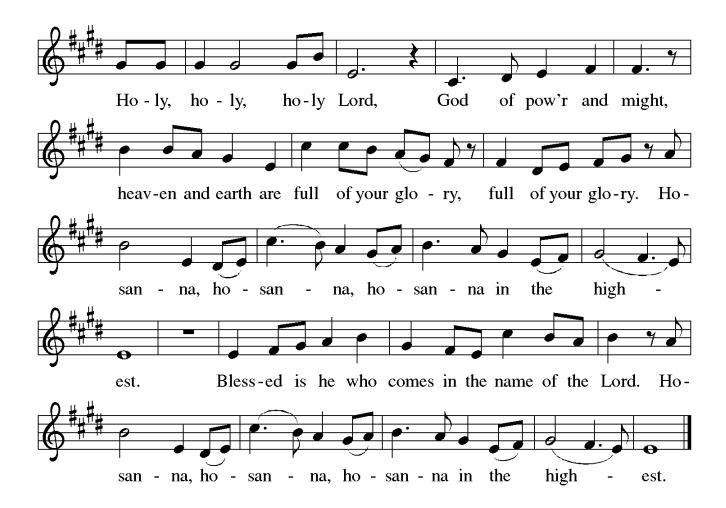
The Great Thanksgiving

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:



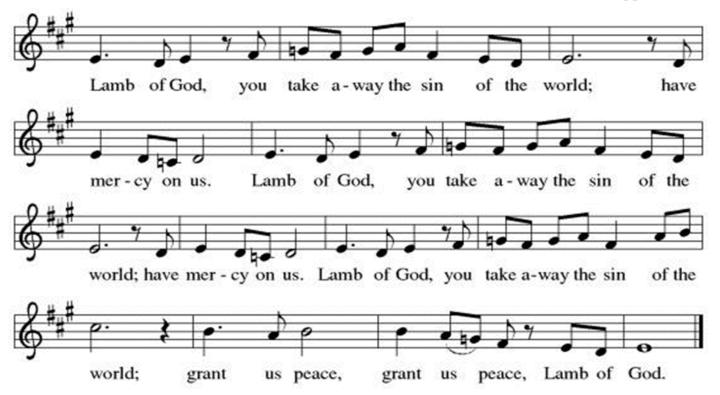
Words of Institution

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 pre-filled cups of wine and grape juice. The juice will be in the middle of the tray. Gluten-free wafers are available as an alternative to bread. St. Stephen is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, so all are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood in the Lord's Supper.



Communion Hymn

God Extends an Invitation (sung twice) ELW 486

Bulletin Page 13

Come, Let Us Eat

ELW 491

This Is Christ's Body

Bulletin Page 14 ACS 967

Bulletin Page 15

Communion Music

The Call R. Vaughan Williams, ed. K. Lee Scott Branch Fields, Bass Soloist

Table Blessing

Prayer after Communion

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

Sending Hymn O Living Bread from Heaven

ELW 542

Bulletin page 16

Blessing
The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,

→ be upon you now and forever. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Postlude God Extends an Invitation Setting, Anne Krentz Organ

We would like to thank Branch Fields for sharing his talents with us.

Branch Fields is a professional singer who has performed with opera companies, orchestras, and musical theater companies throughout North America. He was at New York City Opera for several years as a house bass, and got a Broadway debut in South Pacific, understudying Emile de Becque. He recently was Capt. Von Trapp in The Sound of Music. When he's not engaged out of town, Branch tries to perform as much as he can for the hometown crowd. He grew up in Williamsburg, in Queens Lake, graduating from Bruton High. He came back 11 years ago to be near his parents and raise his three children with his wife, Mya.

Copyright Information

O Bread of Heaven; Contributors: Cesar Franck, Susan Palo Cherwien Tune: © 2001, Augsburg Fortress

The Call; Contributors: R. Vaughan Williams, ed. K.Lee Scott
© 2024 Hope Publishing Company

God Extends an Invitation; Contributors: Anne Krentz Tune: Setting © 2008 Augsburg Fortress

New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # SB164403

-

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

I Am the Bread of Life



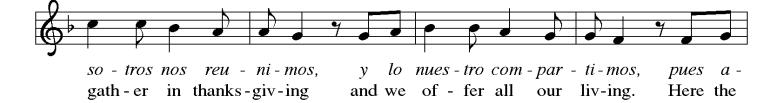
Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6 Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM Text and music © 1966, 1970, 1986, 1993 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

God Extends an Invitation

Nuestro Padre nos invita



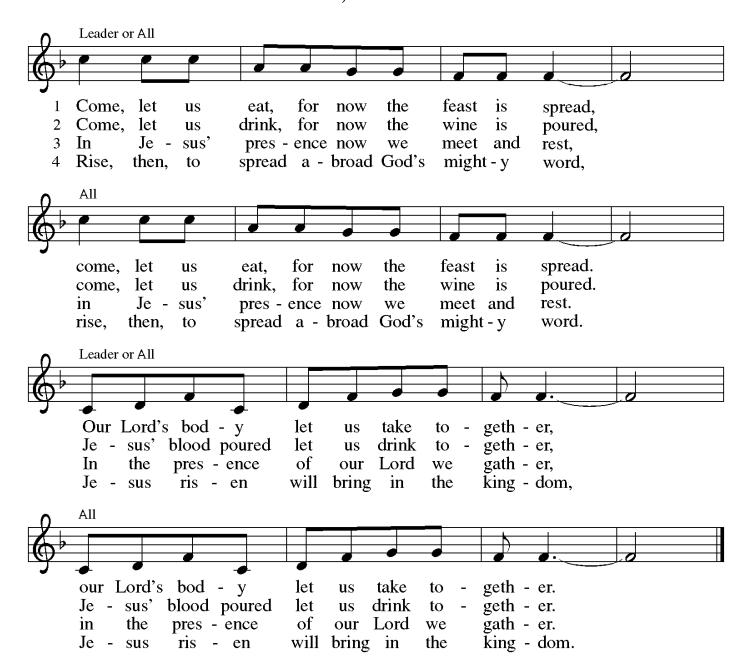






Text: Miria T. Kolling; English and Spanish tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923 Music: NUESTRO PADRE, Miria T. Kolling Spanish and English text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress. Music © Miria T. Kolling.

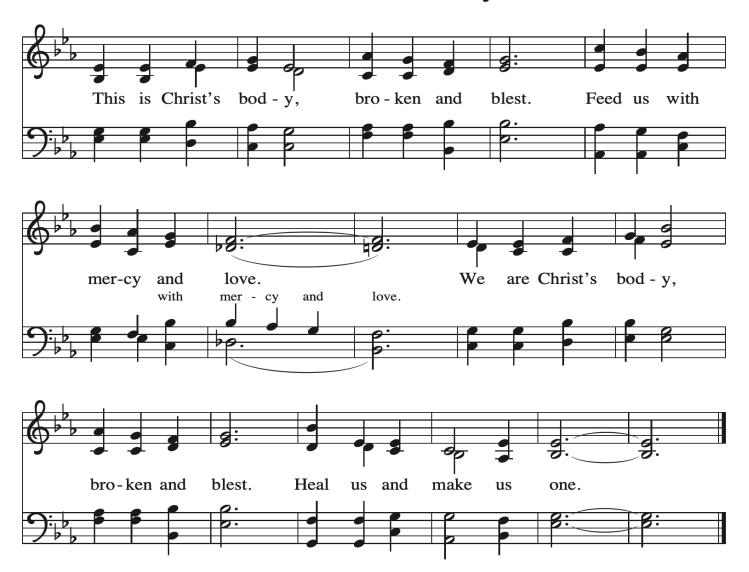
Come, Let Us Eat



Text: Billema Kwillia, b. 1925, sts. 1–3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1–3, alt. Music: A VA DE, Billema Kwillia, adapt.

Text sts. 1-3 and tune © Lutheran World Federation; text st. 4 and music adapt. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

This Is Christ's Body



Text: Anne Krentz Organ, b. 1960

Music: BROKEN AND BLESSED, Anne Krentz Organ

Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

O Living Bread from Heaven



As We Gather

Restrooms & First Aid

- ❖ A gender-neutral, family restroom and a Women's restroom can be found in the hallway behind our Worship Space.
- ❖ Additional Men's and Women's restrooms can be found on the lower level of the church building.
- ❖ A first aid kit and an A.E.D. can be found hanging on the wall in the hallway behind our Worship Space.

Live-streaming

❖ We regularly live-stream our services and cannot guarantee that you will not appear on our YouTube channel. Sitting in the East Wing or the NE section of the Worship Space will minimize your chances of being on screen. We can also bring communion to you if you inform an usher of that desire.

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.org)
- ❖ When parents and children need to take a break for a few minutes, there's a play area (aka "prayground") with toys and books in the East wing of the Worship Space.
- ❖ Age-appropriate activity bags are available in the Gathering Space ask an usher for assistance.

Assistance is Available for You:

- **❖ An induction loop** is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T."
- **❖ Large print** worship materials are available ask an usher.

<u>Health Update</u>: We always encourage you to monitor yourself for symptoms of illness and to worship from home if you are experiencing any. We have masks and hand sanitizer available for use in our building should you require.

What's Happening Today

Flowers this morning are given by Karen Shoberg to the Glory of God!

<u>Choir "Warm-ups" for Fall</u> today August 18 11-11:45 AM. This is a quick 45-minute run-thru of music to hit the ground running for our fall choir. Your next Opportunity will be Next Sunday August 25th same time. Regular rehearsals will Begin in September.

Upcoming

St. Stephen Fall 2024 Women's Retreat: "Walking the Spiritual Journey"

Registration forms are on the way! Friday evening social, Sept. 27 * Saturday retreat program, led by our own Christina Nelson, Sept. 28 * Sunday sermon, by Kristen Berkey-Abbott, Sept. 29 Plan to come (and bring a friend!) for part or all of the retreat weekend! A light continental breakfast and box lunch are provided on Saturday. Venue: St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Outreach project: **School kits for Lutheran World Relief** We are asking for donations of items. Please look for a basket and poster in the gathering space. Monetary donations can be made by writing a check to St. Stephen and putting "**Special Campaign** – **School Kits**" on the memo line. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Buckley at 757.869.3373 or GuamMom16@aol.com. Thank you for any help you can give!

You've GOT TALENT! Do you have an interest in getting our worship services out to those who can't come to worship? Do you like to bake bread and be interested in helping with the communion bread? Maybe your talent is decorating for holidays or just be willing to help prepare the worship space. Come to the tables in the Gathering Space to see how we might benefit from your talents on the AV team, Altar Guild or Bread Baking.

Our Annual Handbell and Choir chimes Retreat is coming Sunday, August 25, 3pm-5pm. Come join the fun and try out our Handbells and our Choir Chimes. No previous experience required. This is purely for fun, laughter, and a ringing-good-time! You are not expected to become a member of the St. Stephen Ringers (unless you become convinced you want to - hmmm?). Please sign the bulletin insert to let me know you're coming. This is ideal for rising 6th graders up to Octogenarians, for families, and for you!

Outdoor Worship at Chickahominy Park. Given the fun we had at our start of summer picnic at Freedom Park we decided to do it again, this time with worship! We will have an outdoor worship service on Sunday, September 1st at 10:00 AM in the shelter between the playground and pool at Chickahominy Park. We have invited OSLC to join us. Hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, buns, water, lemonade, plates, cups, and silverware will be provided; please bring a side dish or dessert to share, and your own lawn chairs. Please RSVP so we can plan an appropriate amount of food, you can let us know you're coming (and your numbers) by either marking the bulletin sign-up sheet or contacting the SSLC office.

St. Stephen Calendar – August 11th-18th, 2024

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

SUNDAY, August 18 ~ 13th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)

9:45 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

11-11:45AM ALL Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, August 19

10:00AM Staff meeting (Pastor's Office)

4:00 PM Stephen Ministers Meeting (Conference Room)

TUESDAY, August 20

WEDNESDAY, August 21

7:00 PM AA Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY, August 22

7:00 PM SMCC Meeting (Conference Room)

FRIDAY, August 23

SATURDAY, August 24

5:30 PM AA Meeting (Library/Conference Room)

5:30 PM Al-ANON Family Meeting (Gathering Space)

SUNDAY, August 25 ~ 14th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00AM Coffee and Fellowship (Gathering Space)

9:45 AM Worship – Holy Communion (livestreamed on our YouTube channel)

11-11:45AM ALL Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)

3PM-5PM Handbell Retreat (Fellowship Hall)

Leading our Worship and Hospitality Today

Sonja Cave
Diana Tiller-Dichtel and Nancy Egloff
JR & Diana Lyons
Pat Fretz
Branch Fields
Cyndy Touhsaent and Pam Buckley
Karen Nester
Ned Neidlinger
Sandy Peterkin and Rosemary Stimson
Pastor Jon Nelson
Peterkin, Sandy Peterkin, Sandy Croushore
George Bass and Russ Dabel

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

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

Love God, Love People, Form Faith.

(St. Stephen Lutheran Church Vision Statement)

All of Us, Called Through Our Baptisms

Pastor Jon Nelson (320-295-8861)

Pastorjn@saintstephenlutheran.net

Karen Ives – Director of Music (757-229-6688)

MusicDir@saintstephenlutheran.net

Hollie Jones – Parish Administrator (757-229-6688) Office@saintstephenlutheran.net

Jessica Kimball -Preschool Director (757-229-6688)Preschool@saintstephenlutheran.net

Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (757-873-2273; 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.

August 18, 2024

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 MinistryWould like a Stephen Minister to contact me
,, out the a stephen minister to contact inc
Any comments? Please be sure your name is above, so we may respond, if
necessary.

Prayer Requests

Name:	
	ve from prayer concerns:
Name:	
- /	
	eed a name tag:ill be attending the outdoor service on Sept 1st #
I/we w	