

# St Stephen

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



**Encouraging and  
strengthening faith in Jesus,  
and sharing the joy of God's love.**

**September 1, 2019    Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost    10:15am**

**The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor**

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# Holy Communion

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## **INTRODUCTION to the 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

*Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.*

### **Gathering**

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

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands and faces the baptismal font. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

My brothers and sisters, today we are both invited, and called to be inviting. Only by the power of the Holy Spirit, can humility and mutual love continue among us. To prepare ourselves to meet the risen Christ in word and sacrament, and to invite others, let us call to mind our sins.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Lord Jesus, you came to call the humble and contrite of heart. Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you come in the banquet of word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you now call us to invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind to your banquet. Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*The presiding minister announces God’s forgiveness.*

May almighty God have mercy on us and lead us, with our sins forgiven, into eternal life.

**Amen.**

*The assembly continues standing to sing, turning to the cross as it passes by.*



1 Oh, praise the gra - cious pow'r that tum - bles walls of fear  
 2 Oh, praise per - sis - tent truth that o - pens fist - ed minds  
 3 Oh, praise in - clu - sive love, en - cir - cling ev - 'ry race,  
 4 Oh, praise the word of faith that claims us as God's own,  
 5 Oh, praise the tide of grace that laps at ev - 'ry shore



and gath - ers in one house of faith all strang - ers far and near:  
 and eas - es from their anx - ious clutch the prej - u - dice that blinds:  
 ob - liv - i - ous to gen - der, wealth, to so - cial rank or place:  
 a liv - ing tem - ple built on Christ, our rock and cor - ner - stone:  
 with vi - sions of a world at peace, no lon - ger bled by war:

*Refrain*



We praise you, Christ! Your cross has made us one!

6 Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth, the love, the word, the tide.  
 Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,  
 praise Christ the crucified: *Refrain*

7 Oh, praise the living Christ  
 with faith's bright songful voice!  
 Announce the gospel to the world  
 and with these words rejoice: *Refrain*

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945  
 Music: CHRISTPRAISE RAY, Carol Doran, b. 1936  
 Text and music from *New Hymns for the Lectionary*, © 1984 Oxford University Press, Inc.

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**APOSTOLIC 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.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

**Glory to God**

*Refrain*



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

*Refrain*



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high -  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and  
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -  
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the  
Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.  
A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Final refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's  
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -  
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept, then the presiding minister leads the prayer.*

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly sits.*

## Word

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

### **FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7**

A reading from Proverbs.

<sup>6</sup>Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; <sup>7</sup>for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 112**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

<sup>2</sup>**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

<sup>4</sup>**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>**For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

<sup>7</sup>They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire up- on their enemies.**

<sup>9</sup>They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

<sup>10</sup>**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;  
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

### **SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>1</sup>Let mutual love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. <sup>5</sup>Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." <sup>6</sup>So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?" <sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>15</sup>Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*After a brief silence, the assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14**

**P:** The Holy Gospel, according to Luke.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

<sup>7</sup>When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup>“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup>and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup>For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup>And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## **Children and Youth Message**

### **SERMON**

**The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer**

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon. The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

*Refrain / Estribillo*



Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la  
Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the



me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -  
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is



re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.  
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.



1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -  
1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -  
2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the  
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all



pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a - le - gre la  
mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm  
ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be  
peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -



*Refrain / Estribillo*

cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.  
walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.  
hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.  
geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

2 *Dios invita a todos los pobres a esta mesa común por la fe, donde no hay acaparadores y a nadie le falta el conqué. Estribillo*

3 *Dios nos manda a hacer de este mundo una mesa donde haya igualdad, trabajando y luchando juntos, compartiendo la propiedad. Estribillo*

Text: Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955, *Misa popular salvadoreña*; tr. Bret Hesla, b. 1957, and William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956  
Music: VAMOS TODOS AL BANQUETE, Guillermo Cuéllar, b. 1955  
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## APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Sustained and nurtured by our generous God, we gather as one to pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

*After each petition of the prayer is said:*

A: Lord, in your mercy.

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Assured by your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*After all have greeted each other the assembly is seated.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING/Offering Music

*The assembly stands.*

**OFFERING SONG: The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing**

**ELW# 531**



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is  
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the  
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,  
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;  
poor his par - a - disc. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and he'll the Je - sus a - maz - ing wel - comes you wa - ter in good - ness of in - side. to wine. the Lord.

*Refrain*  
Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.

Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.

Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.

The feast is read - y to be - gin;  
the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950  
 Music: graham Kendrick  
 Text and music © 1989 Make Way Music, admin. Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

## OFFERING PRAYER

*After the table is set, the assisting minister leads this prayer.*

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The presiding minister continues to give thanks:*

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness ...

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

...all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

## Communion

*The bread is broken for the communion. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come, take your place at the feast.

*The assembly is seated.*

*All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. If you desire baptism, the pastor would love to speak with you! Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a blessing, please cross your arms on your chest if you desire a blessing. At St. Stephen we receive Holy Communion by receiving the bread and then either **drinking directly from the cup or by intinction** (That means that you may receive the bread in your hand and then dip bread in the cup.)*

**Gluten free bread is available on the right side. (please ask)**

**Alcohol free wine is available on the right side. (please ask)**

The body of Christ, given for you. **Response: Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Response: Amen.**

## Lamb of God



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .



have . . mer-cy up-on us, have . . mer-cy up-on us.



O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no-so-tros, have . . mer-cy up-on us, ten pie-dad de no-so-tros, have . . mer-cy up-on us.

Cor-de-ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da-nos tu paz, grant us your peace, da-nos tu paz, grant us your peace.

**Communion Song:**

**As We Gather at Your Table**

**ELW# 522**

1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;  
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;  
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,

teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.  
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
 Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710  
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***Additional Communion songs are sung as needed***

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*An assisting minister leads the prayer.*

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# Sending

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## BLESSING

*All may make the sign of the cross as they receive God's blessing.*

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The assembly turns toward the cross as it passes by.*

## SENDING SONG:

### How Firm a Foundation

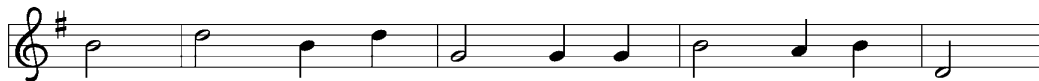
ELW# 796



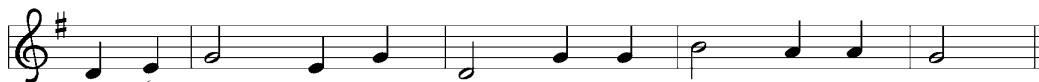
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
3 "When through fi - ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply;  
my sov - reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said,  
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign,  
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand?"  
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."  
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.  
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

## DISMISSAL

**A:** Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

**C:** Thanks be to God.



*In response to the amazing love, mercy and grace of God, St. Stephen Lutheran Church is a community that openly welcomes all who are seeking God's divine love and grace. All are welcome in this place regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic situation or life situation, marital or relationship status, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, friends, spouses and partners are welcome. Your diversity and uniqueness enriches and expands our community. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.*

**IN OUR PRAYERS...**

**In our prayers** today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Laurel Blake, Dorothy Johnson, Carol Chmelynski, Jimmy Fennelli, Edith Reichenback, Audrey Shumway, Jim Loggins, Katie Paff, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

**Prayers for Friends of the Church: (Please renew your request every 3 weeks)**

✠ Dustin, Celeste’s Wood family, Gene, Chris, Amanda, Annette, Madison, Mason, Chuck, Betty, Miguel, Austin, Puerto Rico, victims and families of Dayton, Ohio ✠ Jordan & Jill, Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Glen ✠ Craig, Cheryl, Chandler, Braemen, Aiden, Robert, Nettie, Becky, Jerry, Kitt, Al, Rosie, Josephine, Lucy, William, Joe, Natalie.

**In a facility or homebound:**

- Barbara Kaptain – The Atrium Assistant Living at Boca Raton.  
1080 NW 15TH Room 215 Boca Raton, Fl. 33486
- Jane Reinhold – Platinum Loving Group, P. O. Box 410572, Melbourne, FL 32941
- Evelyn Braun – 6152 Verde Trail Room 106 Boca Raton, Fl. 33433
- Jim Loggins - John Knox Village - Woodlands  
700 SW 4th St, Pompano Beach, FL 33060
- Bud Danker - 3020 N. Ridge Road Apartment W-316  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

***Assisting at Worship on September***

(w) will give wine at communion. Thank you all for serving.

10:15 AM	<u>September 1</u>	<u>September 8</u>	<u>September 15</u>	<u>September 22</u>	<u>September 29</u>
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>	Natalie Prego	Sera Butz	Carol Jacobson	Eric Castaneda	Sera Butz
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Pat Belanger	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger	Carol Jacobson
<b>LECTOR</b>	Pat Belanger	Catherine Zippay	Kevin Otterson	Tom Peterson	Rita Sharkey
<b>USHERS –Need 4 to Serve</b>	Suzanne Loggins Jeanne Pettit Karen Breslin Rosie Fennelli (w)	Erika Flanigan R. Mottesheard Lynda Smith Zachary Smith (w)	Suzanne Loggins Pat Engle Jimmy Fennelli Rosie Fennelli (w)	Lisa Castaneda Jeanne pettit Lynda Smith Zachary Smith (w)	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Catherine Zippay
<b>Head Usher</b>	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
<b>GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve</b>	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle
<b>SOUND</b>	Dennis Magarrell	Dennis Magarrell	Jake VanZile	Dennis Magarrell	Jake VanZile
<b>PROJECTION</b>	Larry Jones	Eric Castaneda	Eric Castaneda	Larry Jones	Eric Castaneda

**PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***Welcome to worship and Happy Labor Day Weekend!*** We are thankful you are here! We especially welcome our guests and our first time guests today. Stop at the desk to pick up a **name tag** if you don’t have one. Please take a moment to fill out the attendance cards in the worship folder with your name, number and email—especially if you are visiting so that we can welcome you. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Pr. Schaefer. Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the gathering area at the back of the church (Narthex) following the liturgy this morning. St. Stephen members: don’t forget to put a little

something in the jar on the table to help support this ministry! We thank **Linda Hanzlik** for her generous stewardship of this ministry of hospitality!

### ***Funeral Liturgy for Kathy Runk***

A Funeral Eucharist will be celebrated for Kathy Runk on Sunday, September 15 at 3:00pm in the church. A reception will follow the service. All members and friends of St. Stephen are invited to attend. *Rest eternal grant Kathy, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine on her.*



### ***Change for Change: Faith Farms***

During September, we will use our change for change tower to support Faith Farm Ministries. This local program offers a faith based recovery program that includes residential drug and alcohol addiction transformation along the road to recovery. *"Faith Farm is a Christian Ministry Whose Purpose Is To Restore And Transform Lives Through The Gospel Of Jesus Christ."* Campuses are located in Fort Lauderdale, Boynton Beach, and Okeechobee. To learn

more go to: [www.faithfarm.org](http://www.faithfarm.org)

### ***Line Dancing is coming this Friday!!!***

Mark your calendars and sign up today for a Line Dance Party at St. Stephen. It is this coming Friday beginning at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. It is free!! There will be a free will offering if you wish to help, There will be wine, other beverages and goodies. You can come and join the dance with our leader, Holly, or just sit and enjoy the fellowship (and maybe laugh at the dancers ☺). In any case it will be a fun evening for St. Stephen members and friends from the community.



### ***Health Kit Packing Party next Sunday***

Following the 10:15 Eucharist and fellowship next Sunday, you are invited to gather in the Luther Room to help make the health kits for our Holy Grill guests that will be given this month. Pizza and beverages will be served to all participants as our thank you. Join us! Many hands make light work!

### ***Fellowship Hall Clean Up Day! September 21***

We need a few people who will help clean out a number of items from the storage room in the entrance of the fellowship hall. We need that space to store items for the Holy Grill ministry and two AA groups that will be coming to St. Stephen shortly. Please see Carol Jacobson today if you are willing to be part of that crew!



### ***Fall Bible Study starts October 1!***

We have finished our study of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles and are getting ready this fall to begin a new adult study every Tuesday evening at 7:00pm in the Luther Room. Now is your big chance to vote on what you would like to learn about next. Another book of the bible, like Genesis (beginnings) or the Gospel of John (the latest and most theologically reflective gospel) or one of

Paul's letters? Maybe something theological like the Small Catechism or the Augsburg Confession (primary document that defines Lutheran understanding of the gospel and the church)? Maybe you have another idea...There will be a line on the weekly attendance card for your suggestions. In any case, Christian formation is a life-long process. Why not decide today to join us when we resume in the fall. We have some great conversations.

***The Holy Grill health kit project***

This is the last week we will be collecting items to be placed in plastic bags to share with our guests at the Holy Grill in September. The office is open Monday—Friday, 9:30—12:30. Before next Sunday you are invited to bring the following items. All of these items should be “travel size”:



- Deodorant
- tooth brush
- tooth paste
- bug spray
- baby wipes
- comb
- small water
- disposable razor
- soap
- shampoo
- Gallon size zip bags.

Breakfast continues to be served Wednesday at 9am and dinner on Wednesday at 5pm in the same location in our east lot. Please check one of the box on the attendance card if interested becoming a volunteer. Be sure to include your email. Pr. Bob will contact you. In addition to the health kits we continue to collect for these clothing needs: **Men's/women's underwear, socks, T-shirts, shorts, towels. WE ARE VERY SHORT ON MEN'S ITEMS RIGHT NOW.**

**SEPTEMBER HOLY GRILL VOLUNTEERS**

**WEDNESDAY 9AM**

9/4 Juliet Crawford – Suzanne Loggins  
 9/11 Carol/Kelly Jacobson – Karen Breslin  
 9/18 Joe Leone – Juliet Crawford  
 9/25 Karen Breslin- Suzanne Loggins

**WEDNESDAY 5PM**

Jake Waldecki  
 Eric Castaneda  
 Erika Flanigan  
 Jake Waldecki

***Final Summer Choir next Sunday***

The rehearsal on September 8 will be at 9 a.m. Like to sing? Try us out. Contact Cesar Vidaud or one of the choir members, or just show up for the rehearsal. Thanks!



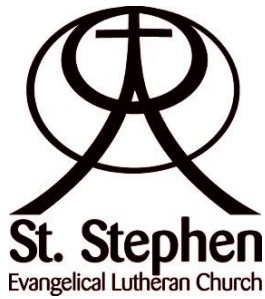
**Online Giving** We offer you the opportunity to give online through our website and also set up automatic offerings so you don't wish to fill an envelope each week, if you choose. Electronic gifts are fast and secure.

***STEWARDSHIP CORNER:***

**Last Sunday Attendance: 50**

**Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 1,508**

**WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY! THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!!**



### Sunday Schedule

10:15 a.m. Worship  
Holy Communion is celebrated weekly  
11:45 a.m. Confirmation Ministry

### Church Staff

**The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer** – Pastor  
pastoratststephen@gmail.com  
941-716-5687  
**Cesar Vidaud** – Director of Music  
**Clarence (Teddy) Rowe** – Sexton  
**Aidee Koach** – Administrative Assistant  
sslcpompano@gmail.com  
Office hours: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 Mon- Fri

### Congregation Council

Larry Jones - President  
councilpresident@ststephenlutheran.net  
Christian Hecker – Vice-president  
Eric Castaneda - Treasurer  
Natalie Prego – Secretary  
Lynda Smith  
Patricia Engle  
Harry Ambrose  
Dennis Magarrell  
Erika Flanigan

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, ELCA  
2500 NE 14th Street Causeway,  
Pompano Beach, Florida, 33062  
Tele: 954.942.4473 • Fax: 954.942.4474  
[www.ststephenlutheran.net](http://www.ststephenlutheran.net)  
[www.facebook.com/SSLCPompano](https://www.facebook.com/SSLCPompano)  
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## Activity Calendar

### Sunday 1

10:15am Worship  
11:45am Confirmation Ministry

### Monday 2

Labor Day – Office Closed

### Tuesday 3

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

### Wednesday 4

9:00-10:00am Holy Grill Feeding Ministry  
9:00-12pm Threads of Love  
9:30am-12:30pm Office Open  
5:00-6:00pm Holy Grill Feeding Ministry  
7:00pm Congregation Council Meeting

### Thursday 5

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

### Friday 6

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

### Saturday 7

6:30pm Line Dancing!

### Sunday 8

10:15am Worship  
11:45 Health Kit Packing Party/Lunch



“Let’s give ‘em a good start  
with some holy water!”

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