

St Stephen
Lutheran Church, ELCA

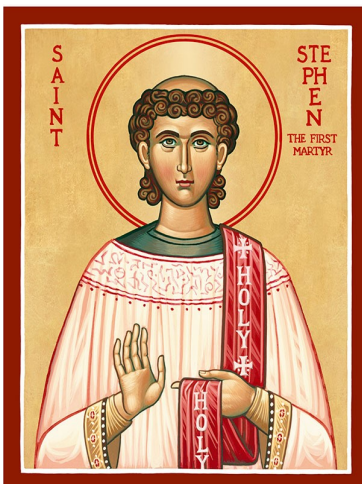
The Messenger

2500 NE 14th Street Causeway, Pompano Beach, FL 33062 Ph. (954) 942-4473

February 2018

Sunday Schedule:

* **10:15 a.m.**
Worship Service



SAINT STEPHEN
The First Christian Martyr

In This Issue:

- ⇒ Happy Lent!
What? Really?
- ⇒ Happenings and
Events
- ⇒ Looking ahead
- ⇒ Announcements
- ⇒ Thank You Notes
- ⇒ Volunteer Assis-
tants in February

Happy Lent! (What? Really?)



YES. REALLY!

Originally Lent was three days long and came immediately before Easter. Everyone thought it was wonderful to spend those three days reflecting on their own sinfulness and being thankful for how much God had done for them. Eventually, they thought that if three days was wonderful, five or seven days would be better. Then It expanded to a couple of weeks and eventually to 7 weeks. That is like saying “

If two scoops of sugar is great in coffee, then five scoops would be better and 20 scoops would be even better.”

If that wasn't enough, they created a second Lent before Christmas and called it Advent. Several years ago, the Lutheran Church decided it did not need 2 Lenten seasons. So, it changed the emphasis of Advent from repentance to hope and changed the color of Advent from the penitential purple to the hopeful color of blue. I applaud the church for having done this. But now I believe it would be beneficial for the church to use the same wisdom and re-think it's approach to Lent.

Ash Wednesday is awesome! It will stay exactly as it is. It is a day to remember that we are “dust and to dust we shall return.” It is a day to be humbled and penitential. It is my earnest hope that 100% of our members will be able to receive ashes that day at either our 12 o'clock or our 7 o'clock worship. This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 14 which is also Valentine's Day. If you are going out in the evening to celebrate Valentine's Day, Please come to the noontime service. In the event that neither noon nor 7:00 PM is possible, we are again having drive up ashes in front of our fellowship hall from 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM. Last year it was a wonderful witness to our community and was very well received.

Now things may change a little bit at St Stephen for the middle of Lent. The focus for our Thursday mid week and our Sunday morning services will be on spiritual growth and faithful service to our Lord. The Lord has come that he might build us up. We are his beloved children. Let us be strengthened, encouraged, and built up in the faith.

Ahhh. But holy week is different. We will return to the traditions of the original length and experience. We will worship in traditional ways on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. More about these next month.

So, happy Lent. Let us begin in humility on Ash Wednesday, and then be joyfully strengthened in our faith and our actions through our worship experiences.

God bless you all,
Pastor Nelson

Happenings and Events

- Tuesday, February 6 Council Meeting

Council Members, please check your calendars.

- Saturday, February 10 Breakfast Bunch

Once again we start-
ing our monthly
Breakfast Bunch.
Please come and join
us in this fun gather-
ing morning.



- Sunday, February 11 Quilt Sunday

We're looking forward
to seeing you all
on February 11th for
our annual QUILT
SUNDAY Mass.
We enjoy this day so
much because we get
to display some of our
beautiful hand-



made quilts that we are so proud of. Thank you for your years of support. Kathy Leone- Leader.

- Sunday, February 18 Annual Congregation Meeting

The annual Congregation Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February, 18th. The meeting will be held immediately following the worship service. The meeting agenda will include the following important issues: Approving a revised Constitution, approving the 2018 budget, an updated status on a full time pastor. All members are encouraged to attend. Members who would like a copy of the Constitution to review prior to the meeting should call the Church office. Due to the amount of paper, only a few hard copies of the Constitution will be made available in the back of the Church beginning February 4th.



Announcements

CALLING ALL GREENTHUMBS

Dear Friends in Christ,
When I arrived at the church office last Tuesday, there were four members already there and hard at work. Kevin Otterson, John Partipilo, Rita Sharkey, and Bob Fix were beautifying the greenery at the entrance to our sanctuary. I asked if there was anything I could do to help. Perhaps some cold water? The smiling reply was something like this: "it would be nice if we could maybe get a whole group of us together to do some of these things." I think he was right. How about you? Would you be interested? If so, you can call some of the hard workers I mentioned above, or me, or Aidee at the office.

You don't actually have to have a green thumb, just a generous heart.

Thank you,
Pastor Nelson



Confirmation Classes and Sunday School

Even though our confirmation classes already started if you like to register your child you still have time! We will meet in the Fellowship Hall and our teachers will be Pastor Nelson and Sera Butz. Also registration for Sunday school for Elementary children is still open. Please feel free to bring your child at 9:00am.



Confirmation

Contribution Statements



We have them ready for you to pick it up at the entrance of sanctuary. Please note that they are in alphabetic order for an easier search. Thanks Pat Belanger for this wonderful job!

Rental of the Fellowship Hall

As you may know our rental of the Fellowship Hall for small events is blooming! We have every Saturday of February already booked!. This is another way of helping our community and of being good stewards of the resources God has entrusted us with.



Looking ahead...

-Saturday, March 17 Classic Comedy & Musical Concert



An Evening of Classic, Clean Comedy & Musical Memories on St. Patrick's Day March 17, 2018. Concert begins at 7:30 PM

Pompano Beach — When you think back about the great comedians of days gone by, what names come to mind? Jack Benny? Bob Hope? Charlie Chaplin? Laurel & Hardy? George Burns & Gracie Allen? Groucho Marx? Lucy? Jimmy Durante? Red Skelton? Jackie Gleason? All of these and many more will be featured in an evening guaranteed to bring back nostalgic memories of your favorite comedians and the music most associated with them.

This entertaining "main event" is part humor-filled game show (can you guess the familiar tune?) and part piano concert. These nostalgic theme songs (and the comedians most associated with them) bring back so many happy memories from Vaudeville, Motion Pictures and Broadway to Radio, Television and Record Albums. Lenny Dave is a nationally recognized comedy historian who has performed in the Red Skelton Entertainment Series. Meanwhile, Bob Vogel has been entertaining audiences nationally for decades with his musical mastery. Tickets are on sale through the church office or Sunday Service: \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. For more information, please call 954-942-4473 between 9:30 and 12:30 Monday thru Friday.

-Saturday, March 11 Jewelry Party



The jewelry party is a fund raising that we are having instead of the fashion show this year. We are having two jewelry companies. One is religious jewelry real nice. The other company is regular jewelry, the name is Personally Poetic. Both companies are very affordable. Please come you may find that piece you've been looking for to complete your collection.

*Thank
You*



CANDLELIGHTER DONATION

Our thanks to Dr. John and Sheri Graver for donating the candle lighter "To The Glory of God and in honor of Bishop Pedro Suarez." Thank you for your kind donation.



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS ARE DOWN & PUT AWAY

We want to thank Carol & Kelly Jacobson, Dawn Schramm, Juliet Crawford, Natalie Prego, Patti Belanger, Bob Fix, Terry & Audrey Shumway Eric Castaneda, Larry & Rose Jones & Rosie Fennelli for their time, effort, job well done & all the goodies. Thanks again



2500 NE 14th Street Causeway
Pompano Beach, FL 33062
Ph. (954) 942-4473

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sidney Nelson

*“Encouraging and Strengthening Faith
in Jesus and Sharing the Joy of God’s
Love”*

We're on the web
www.ststephenlutheran.net
***** Check the Video Sermons**

Email us at:
sslcpompano@gmail.com
And like us on.....
www.facebook.com/sslcpompano



Volunteer Assistants in February 2018

10:15 am	<u>February 4</u>	<u>February 11</u>	<u>February 18</u>	<u>February 25</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Pat Belanger	Natalie Prego	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz
ACOLYTE	Katie Paff	Sera Butz	Aiyana Cartwright	Madison Kibler
LECTOR	Erika Flanigan	Kevin Otterson	Rosie Fennelli	Catherine Zippay
USHERS -Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggings Harry Ambrose Patricia Engle Linda Hanzlik (w)	Rosie Fennelli Patricia Belanger Linda Hanzlik (w) Catherine Zippay	Lisa Castaneda (w) Floyd MacDonald Terry Shumway Jeanne Pettit	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Erika Fanigan
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS - Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones	Caroline Smith Zachary Smith	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones
SOUND	Dennis Magarrell	Katie Paff	Dennis Magarrell	Eric Castaneda
PROJECTION	Larry Jones	Eric Castaneda	Larry Jones	Larry Jones

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 F.H. Rented
4	5	6 7pm Council Meeting	7 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel	8 7:00 pm Choir Practice	9	10 9am Breakfast Bunch
11 9am Sunday School 9am Confirmation 10:15 Worship/Quilt Sunday	12	13	14 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel	15 7:00 pm Choir Practice	16	17 F.H. Rented
18 9am Sunday School 9am Confirmation 10:15am Worship 11:15am Annual Congregational Meeting	19	20	21 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel	22 7:00 pm Choir Practice	23	24 F.H. Rented
25 9am Sunday School 9am Confirmation 10:15am Worship	26	27	28 9am Quilters 3pm Preschool Chapel			