

St Stephen

n congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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

July 28, 2019

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION to the Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

We are in "Ordinary Time"—this Time After Pentecost that continues now until Advent. Even though the liturgy is simpler in this season, it retains the four-fold pattern of Gathering, Word, Meal, and Sending. A shape we have inherited from the earliest Christians. Today we learn that persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."

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.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God.

have mercy on us.

We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin.

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,

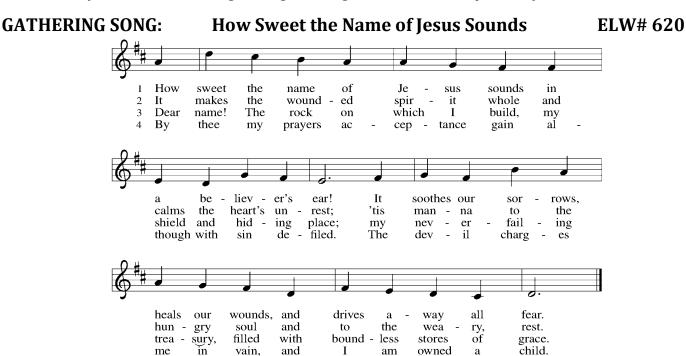
things we have done and things we have failed to do.

Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**



- 5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend, my prophet, priest, and king, my Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring.
- 6 How weak the effort of my heart, how cold my warmest thought; but when I see thee as thou art, I'll praise thee as I ought.
- 7 Till then I would thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath; and may the music of thy name refresh my soul in death!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Music: St. Peter, Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**





PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

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

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Word

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32

A reading from Genesis.

²⁰Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

²²So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³²Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

³When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;

you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)

A reading from Colossians.

⁶As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ²He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." ⁵And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and

for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

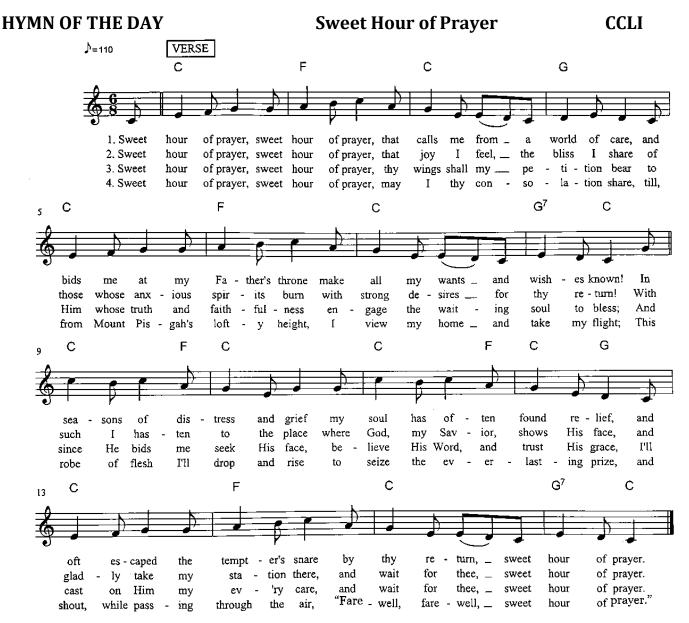
The assembly is seated.

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.



CCLI Song # 32273

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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: Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

After each petition of the prayer is said:

A: Let us pray,

C: Have mercy, O God.

P: All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

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.



MEAI

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

The assembly stands.

OFFERING SONG:

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

ELW# 752

(Sung three times)



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

Merciful God, as the grains of wheat once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now united on this table in bread and wine, may we who celebrate this Holy Communion be gathered into one in you. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **C: 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.

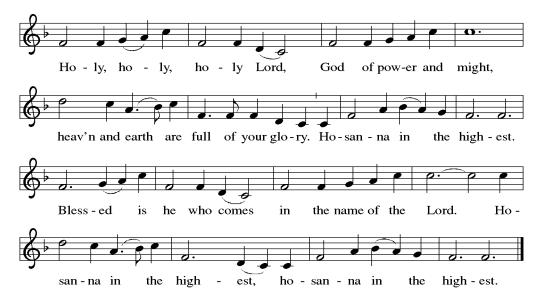
Lift up your hearts.

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:



The presiding minister continues to give thanks:

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

...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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

C: Amen.

P: 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.

P: This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.

The assembly is seated.

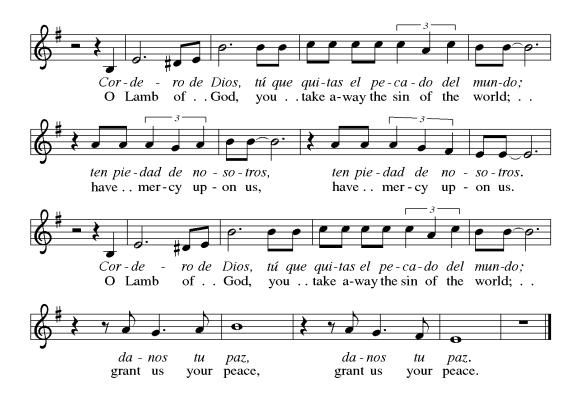
All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. If you desire baptism, the pastor would love to speak with you! Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a blessing, please cross your arms on your chest if you desire a blessing. 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





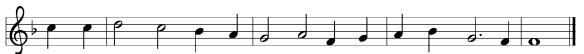
Communion Song:

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

ELW# 494



- 1 For the bread which you have bro ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom-ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re-stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n-ly board,
- 4 In your ser vice, Lord, de fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo-ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord. by your call to heav'n a-bove us, hal-low all our lives, O Lord. may the church still wait-ing for you keep love's tie un-bro-ken, Lord. in the world to which you send us let your king-dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt. Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631 Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

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Additional Communion songs are sung as needed

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with spiritual food, the body and blood of Christ. All who come to you will not hunger, all who believe in you will not thirst. Empowered by this sacrament, send us back into the world to do the work you have given us to do: to share the gospel and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: 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.

P: Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving;

and the blessing of Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you forever.

C: Amen.

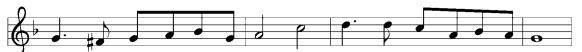
The assembly turns toward the cross as it passes by.





- 1 What a friend we have in Je sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
- 2 Have we tri als and temp ta tions? Is there trou-ble an y where?
- 3 Are we weak and heav-y lad en, cum bered with a load of care?





Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need-less pain we bear—Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rowsshare? Do your friends de-spise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be-cause we do not car - ry ev-'ry-thing to God in prayer! Je - sus knows our ev-'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so-lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886 Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

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: Laurel Blake, Dorothy Johnson, Kathy Runk, Carol Chmelynski, Jimmy Fennelli, Laurel Blake, 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)

♣ Alex, Alma, Christina, "Pop", Eric, Liz, Dax, George, The Castaneda family ♣ Jimmy, Alex, John, Nitza, Jack, Curt, Barbara, Alma, Christina, Pop, Harrison, and Mary Anne ♣ Shauna Widman, Harrison, Tom, Mary Anne, C.W., Gene, Chris, Amanda, Chuck, Annette, Dawn, Joanna, Betty, Peterson family, Pat Jean, Pat Ruth, Glen, Alex, John, Jack, Alma, Jo-Jo., and Puerto Rico.

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

Flowers this week sponsored by: Harry Ambrose.

Assisting at Our Worship today

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

10:15 AM	<u>July 28</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Natalie Prego
LECTOR	Tom Peterson
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Lisa Castaneda (w) Pat Engle Karen Breslin
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS – Need 2 to Serve	Rose Jones Kelly Jacobson
SOUND	Eric Castaneda
PROJECTION	Larry Jones

DADISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! 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!

CHANGE FOR CHANGE for June and July will be donated to SunServe.

THIS IS THE FINAL SUNDAY, PLEASE GIVE GERNEROUSLY! SunServe is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit social services agency serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) community in South Florida. They provide high quality, culturally relevant care for all with an emphasis on those in financial need, minorities, youth, seniors, HIV+ persons, and those with life-challenging physical or emotional conditions. They also offer myriad education and training services.





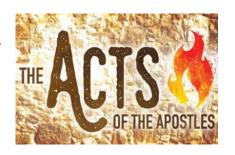
Luther Room Art Opportunities

As the renovations to the Luther Room reach their completion, it's time to put some finishing touches on the room. It is named to honor the 16th century German Augustinian monk and reformer, Martin Luther, in whose

theological tradition we are heirs. It only seems appropriate that the art in the room not only inspires our faith, but also reflects the theological emphasis of the Reformation as expressed in some of the art of that period. Three reproductions of Reformation art have been chosen for the walls of the Luther Room. These are gifts that you can make to St. Stephen to the glory of God, or in honor of someone, or in memory of someone. These donations will be noted when the room is dedicated by Bishop Suarez at the conclusion of the Festival Eucharist on Reformation Sunday, October 27. A flyer with the image, description and price is available in the back of the church or from Pr. Bob. Please see him if you would like to gift one of these paintings.

Tuesday evening Bible Study: The Book of Acts

We gather for this conversation every Tuesday from 7—8pm in the Luther Room. Acts tells the story of the early church. It traces the growth of the church from a small group of Jewish believes in Jerusalem to a worldwide movement that included both Jews and Gentiles.



Make a gift of flowers to beautify our worship

We have plenty of openings on the calendar in the narthex. Please sign up for a Sunday today. You can give the flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, or to the glory of God. You may take the flowers if you wish after worship. It is only \$35 to sponsor the flowers for a week.



Summer Choir sings next on August 11

The St. Stephen choir will sing at the liturgy on the *second Sunday* of the next two months: August 11 and September 8. Rehearsals will be at 9 a. m. on the Sundays when the choir sings. Like to sing? Try us out. Contact Cesar Vidaud or one of the choir members, or just show up for a rehearsal. Thanks!

The Holy Grill feeding ministry needs you!

Breakfast is served Wednesday at 9am and dinner on Wednesday at 5pm (note change from Tuesday) 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. Our ongoing focus is on collecting these clothing needs: Men's/women's underwear, socks, T-shirts, shorts, towels.



JULY HOLY GRILL VOLUNTEERS

WEDNESDAY 5PM

WEDNESDAY 9AM

7/30 Karen Breslin

7/31 Joe Leone - Carol Jacobson



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.

In Loving Memory of Dawn Schramm:

In lieu of a traditional funeral, Dawn's son, Scott, sends us the following invitation: "We're planning a celebration of Dawn's life on September 28th, 2019. We decided to wait till then due to everyone's busy summer schedules, and it should be much cooler here by that time of year. Rod and I want to make this a celebration for Mom and fun for all with events, dinners, and all the things my Mom loved so much. Her favorite things were dinners at our house, fun parties and enjoying the boat. We will be hosting from 4pm - 7pm on Saturday 28th of September at our home: 1725 NE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33305."

PLEASE RSVP Scott if you plan on attending, so he can get a head count for the caterer and arrangements for other events over the weekend. His contact info is:

Email: scottinaboat@gmail.com

Phone: 202-997-9265

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

Last Sunday Attendance: 50 Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$ 3,004

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

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Activity Calendar

Sunday 28

10:15am Worship

Monday 29

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 30

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

7:00pm Acts Bible Study (Luther Room)

Wednesday 31

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

Thursday 1

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Friday 2

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Saturday 3

Happy and Blessed Saturday!

Sunday 4

10:15am Worship



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