



September 22, 2021
17 Pentecost Weekday

Dear family,



Don't miss it:

The Annual Blessing of the Animals—October 2

Join us with your pets on the front porch of the church on Saturday, October 2 anytime from 10:00am to 1:00pm for the annual Blessing of Animals in honor of St. Francois of Assisi. In addition to the blessing we will have gifts and snacks!

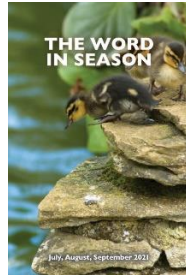


Come to worship this Sunday, September 26

This week we will celebrate the 18th Sunday After Pentecost. We continue to hear readings from the Gospel of Mark. This week, someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it; by people we can't keep tabs on.

Following guidance from our bishop and the CDC, please wear a mask when you are at worship, and maintain social distancing, until the COVID numbers get better. We will sing only a verse or two of the hymns and will not return to

fellowship following worship at this time. Don't forget, in addition to in person worship, the Liturgy will be livestreamed on Facebook and the website as well. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/SSLCPompano/> or <http://www.ststephenlutheran.net> for live viewing. All Sunday Liturgies as well as Weekday Prayer are also archived on both those sites.



New devotional booklets now available...

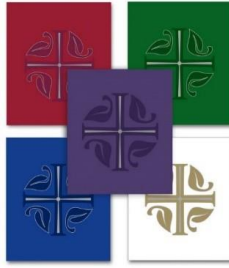
Christ in our Home and The Word in Season, our ELCA daily devotional books for the months of October—December are now available in the narthex. Please be sure to take one for your daily prayer.



Fall Adult Education returns October 7 at 7:00pm

Please note the change in starting date, due to some schedule conflicts! This class is called “***Who are we Lutherans? Together by Grace.***” It will use scripture and the Augsburg Confession (the 16th century document that defines the Lutheran understanding of the Christian faith) to discuss what makes us distinctively “Lutheran” and how Lutheran Christians understand God and humanity, faith and good works, grace and salvation, the church, the scriptures and the sacraments. To be safe, I will offer this class on Zoom. Just click on this link to join us beginning October 7:

[Adult Education Zoom Gathering](#)



People honored by new worship gifts to St. Stephen:

Thank you for your generous response to our new worship gift list. Many of the items on the list have already been spoken for. The following gifts have been given and will be dedicated in the weeks ahead:

All Creation Sings, pew edition, 12 copies

**Given in honor of
St. Stephen's Music Ministry
Cesar Vidaud and the Choir**
by Rita Sharkey

All Creation Sings, accompaniment edition

**Given in honor of
Pr. Tom Peterson's 50th Anniversary**
by Carol and Kelly Jacobson
Kevin Otterson
John Partipilo

Mevo Video Camera and Stand

Given by Cesar Vidaud

Apple iPad to operate cameras

**Given in honor of
All Medical Staff and Patients
lost due to COVID**
by Natalie Prego

Funeral Pall for an urn

**Given in loving memory of
Her Parents and Brother**
by Rosie Fennelli

You may give these remaining gifts to beautify or enhance our worship as memorials or in honor of a loved one: 15 copies of **NRSV Pew Bible** @ \$15.90, 5 pack of **Ceremonial Binders** in liturgical colors (pictured) for the presiding minister @\$130.



HOME STRETCH FOR OUR DRIVE: The Holy Grill and Holy Provisions

Our Change for Change Tower is focusing on the needs of our ministry with the Holy Grill. We continue to collect specific needs through September for this important ministry. **Here is an updated specific list of things to bring with you to church this week. If you cannot shop for these items, you may put a monetary gift in the Change for Change tower and we will purchase items.**

TOP NEEDS THIS WEEK:

- ✓ **Body lotion**
- ✓ **Deodorant**
- ✓ **Hand sanitizer**
- ✓ **Conditioner**
- ✓ **Disposable Razors**
- ✓ **Gel shaving cream**
- ✓ **Masks**
- ✓ **Sunscreen**
- ✓ **Toothpaste**
- ✓ **Men's shorts**

Other needs:

- Baby/wet wipes
 - brush or comb
 - Men's underwear
 - T-Shirts
 - feminine hygiene
 - first-aid kit, band aids
 - flashlight
 - lip balm
 - Nail clippers
 - petroleum jelly
 - Shampoo
 - Q tips
 - soap
 - Socks
 - tarp or blanket
 - tissues
 - towels & wash cloths
 - Tuna, trail mix, nuts, & cracker packs
 - toothbrush
 - Water bottle
 - Travel size plastic bottles
 - One gallon Ziploc bags
 - Snack size baggies
 - Women's tank tops
 - a good book
- In addition to these items, we are collecting **non-perishable food items** for Holy Provisions—the food pantry at St. Nicholas on Sample Road. We will take any items that have a shelf life such as canned goods, cereals, noodles, peanut butter, etc.



Please wear your name tag

I encourage you to wear your St. Stephen name tag to church whenever you are here and especially on Sunday. It's the best way to make sure everyone knows your name! If you need a name tag, please feel free to let me know by responding to this email with the exact way you would like your name to appear.



Serving this Sunday, September 26

<i>Assisting Minister:</i>	Carol Jacobson
<i>Crucifer/Acolyte:</i>	Jake Waldecki
<i>Lector:</i>	Tom Peterson
<i>Sound:</i>	Eric Castaneda
<i>Camera:</i>	George Arce
<i>Greeter:</i>	Kelly Jacobson
<i>Ushers:</i>	Ida Solomita and Suzanne Loggins

We are here for you...

Ron Hayde, our administrative assistant, is normally in the office Monday through Friday from 9:30am—12:30pm. Pastor Bob is in the office most mornings, except Monday, and is available at other times by appointment. Please be in touch with me or the office for any pastoral care needs. **If you would like Holy Communion at home because you cannot get out to church, please contact the office as Pr. Bob has resumed this ministry.** Don't forget to send prayer requests or call the office by **Thursday** each week if you have not already entered them on the Sunday Welcome Card. You may call the office at 954-942-4473, or email us at sslcpompano@gmail.com.

Peace be yours,

Pr. Bob