

WELCOME TO *St. Stephen the Martyr, ELCA*

Service Times: Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:00 & 9:30 a.m.



the **MARTYR MONTHLY** OCTOBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

St. Stephen the Martyr *Lutheran Church, ELCA*

6101 South 51st Street
Greendale, WI 53129
PHONE & FAX: 421-3543
E-MAIL: ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com
www.StStephentheMartyr.com
OFFICE HOURS:
9-2 M-Th
9-12 F

REFORMATION SUNDAY & POTLUCK DINNER OCTOBER 26TH, 2008

Holy Communion at all services
5:00 p.m. Saturday
8:00 and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday

Affirmation of Baptism—(Confirmation of 9th Graders) at the 9:30
worship

Invite family and friends to worship with you!

Special music by the choirs at all services

SUNDAY EVENING: REFORMATION POT LUCK DINNER at 5:30
p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, with a brief entertaining program to
follow (More details to come)

SSM STAFF

Gail Brodersen-Heins, Pastor
pastorgail@ststephenthemartyr.com
Bill Bravener, Music Director
bbravener@ststephenthemartyr.com
Kevan Penvose, Discipleship Coach for
Family Ministries
stillerz7@yahoo.com
Lynda Shadd, Office Administrator
ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com
Bob Brownell, Maintenance
Bob De Frank, Sunday School
Superintendent
Janet Snyder, Organist



inside this issue:

- [From Pastor's Desk](#)
- [Stewardship](#)
- [Women's Ministries](#)
- [Fellowship](#)
- [Family Ministries](#)
- [Music & Worship](#)
- [Evangelism](#)
- [Human Concerns](#)
- [Property](#)
- [Other Notes](#)
- [Council Minutes](#)

PASTOR GAIL'S COMPUTER NOTES...

The month of October brings the celebration of the 16th century Protestant Reformation. We give thanks for the witness and work of Martin Luther, as well as Jan Hus, John Wycliffe and others who stood courageously. We celebrate October 31 as the day in 1517 when Luther publicly announced his refusal to accept some of the distorted teachings of the Church. We give thanks for the winds of change that blew through the Church in those days.

Like Jan Hus before him, Luther refused the Church's authority when it went against his conscience and his understanding of Scripture. Luther taught that it is God alone who saves, and that faith is a gift. God gives us grace, which is the undeserved love that God offers us in Jesus.

The reformation became a groundswell that changed life for Christians throughout Europe and the whole

western world. The reformation was not meant to be destructive. It was meant to revive the Church, because it was based on hope--hope in God alone.

The reformers lived in hope--based on the understanding that God is loving, and not "out to get us", that salvation is free through what Jesus Christ has done, and that the kingdom of God is a free gift. In thanksgiving to God, we are free to share the news of God's mercy, love and forgiveness with those who are without faith.

This year, we get to celebrate with seven 9th graders who will affirm their baptismal covenant in the Rite of Confirmation at the 9:30 service on Sunday, October 26th.

Please pray for KAYLA DOUCETTE, MITCHELL FISCHER, ALEXANDER FREDRICH, KEVIN GIESENSCHLAG, BAILEY JOHNSON, KYLE KRAUSKE, KORI KRIEWALDT. Pray for them, for their parents, and their life in this community of believers. Pray that they may understand that God's grace is theirs. Pray that the promises they make on that day will bear fruit in their lives, that they will continue to grow in discipleship as they worship and work as Christ's followers.

IT IS MY PRAYER that all members will experience renewal this fall. It is my hope that all will commit to regular worship and service. It is my special prayer that all will worship at one of the three services on Reformation Weekend, celebrating our great Lutheran heritage together as we lift our voices to sing "A Mighty Fortress is Our God!" and receiving our Lord's Supper and hearing the precious Word of God.

See you at worship soon!

Your partner in the Gospel,
Pastor Gail

Stewardship

**Next Stewardship Meeting is
November 4th at 7:00 pm.**



Several mornings a week, I try to get out and walk in my neighborhood. When I do, I am truly blessed. I look around and see the majestic trees of many kinds, the bright flowers, the interesting homes and yards. Often I get to stop and pet a dog and greet the owner, or a cat sitting at the end of its driveway, just waiting for me to scratch its belly. Spring and fall bring their own colors and new vistas.

Walking is good for my spirit as well as my body. I pray on these walks. I often ponder the Scripture texts for the coming weekend, and my walk seems to release thoughts and ideas that I might use in a sermon or Bible study. I believe that Jesus, through the Holy Spirit's power, is walking with me and guiding my internal reflections.

Our Stewardship Committee has chosen as our Fall emphasis "WALK WITH JESUS".

Over the next three weeks, all of us will get to think about our walk with Jesus! It's a daily walk that we step out on each morning. He has promised to go with us daily, but we need to clear our eyes and tune our ears to his presence. We need to ask that Jesus might direct our steps unto the right road.

I urge you to take a look at your life this fall. Be honest in asking yourself if your financial resources are a reflection of Jesus walking with you each day. Pray that Jesus will guide your steps as you think about the financial resources God has entrusted to you. Remember that all that you have still belongs to God and is placed in your care and management. Think about the many good ways that this community of faith can and does use our resources to spread the Gospel message of Jesus Christ.

I urge you also to think about your need to give as part of your faith in Jesus. He calls you and me to walk faithfully with Him each day. As we grow in all our giving, we will truly be blessed in our WALK WITH JESUS.

Pastor Gail

On behalf of the Stewardship Committee



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY & LOOSE ENDS CRAFTING

We will meet on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month, October 8 @ 9:00 a.m. & October 22 @ 10:15 am. Please join us as we study scripture and enjoy the fellowship of our sisters in Christ.

The Loose Ends Bake & Craft Sale is

December 5th & 6th.

LOOSE ENDS - OCT. 8TH @ 10 a.m.

All crafters are invited to attend the October meeting of the Loose Ends group being held at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll work on craft projects for the Bake and Craft sale. We will have a Taco Lunch. Please sign up on the kiosk to bring the "fixins" for our lunch. Questions? Call Carol Birk (421-6162) or Carole Ropel (262-523-4130). Come on December 5th to set up for the annual Bake & Craft Sale.

PIECEMAKER'S QUILTING GROUP

The Piece Makers Quilting group will meet for the last time this year on October 20th, beginning about 6:15 p.m. We will not meet during the months of November and December but will resume our get-togethers on January 19, 2009.....always the third Monday of every month. Your assistance is needed on October 13th (6:30 p.m.) when we will meet to pack the quilts for shipping to Lutheran World Relief. Please call Betty Kroll at 414-421-1802 if you are able to help. We hope you enjoyed seeing our quilts displayed on September 27-28, our Thankoffering weekend. We have so much to be thankful for.....the contributions you made of material, thanks to those of you who offered to sponsor a quilt, to those of you who donated sheets for backing, for the many hours the quilters themselves donated to this project and, MANY thanks to the woman who leads this effort...Betty Kroll. We all benefit from her dedication and skill. We pray that God will bless our quilts as they find their way to the individuals who will receive them.

Fellowship

Shelly Rosenstock, Chairperson

"A good time was had by all." That's a quote from Pastor Gail as the annual Rally Day picnic came to a close on Sunday, September 7, 2008, and I agree!

Thank you to all who participated. I won't list names for fear of missing someone, but thanks go to those who shopped, set-up on Saturday and Sunday, grilled, provided side dishes or desserts, and pitched in to help serve and clean-up. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Sue DeFrank and her helpers provided crafts and activities for the children and adults alike. They were a big hit.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 26 when we will be planning our annual Reformation Potluck Supper.

If you want to help plan other activities, please contact me at 414-769-7067.

FIRST FRIDAY POTLUCK

OCTOBERFEST!

On Friday, Oct. 3rd, 6 pm, we will celebrate OCTOBERFEST with a festive pot-luck. Bratwurst and pork will be grilled. Other main dishes, salads and desserts are welcome, perhaps reflecting the German theme, or just plain old fashioned 'comfort food'! Beverages will be provided.

Bring a joke or a funny fall story and enjoy the fun of eating and being together!

Bring a friend if you like! ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME, especially those who live alone.

Sign up on the bulletin board next to the office and indicate what you will bring! A donation of \$2 is requested that evening.

Family Ministry News

UPCOMING EVENTS		
September 7	9:30 AM	Rally Day
September 7	7:00 PM	Planning Meeting

9TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENT/ PARENT MEETING

Preparing for Your Confirmation Day
Parents and students will meet with Pastor Gail on Sunday eves, Oct. 12 & 19, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Refreshments to be served
Confirmation Day is Sunday, October 28th!

September 21	7:00 PM	Revolutions!
TBD		Service Project

**Coming Up:
CONFERENCE FOR PARENTS & ADULTS**

You are invited to join us for this Milestones Ministry training event, linking home and congregation to pass on our faith through the generations. Recognize the many blessings God gives us as we journey through life, and learn to lift them up in celebration and affirmation.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 15, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (11709 W. Cleveland Ave. West Allis). The cost is free to you with lunch, snacks, beverages and resource materials provided. Contact Tim Falksen (418-6793, tfalksen@gmail.com) by October 25 to register.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: "SMASH"

If you enjoyed, or even heard about, the legendary trips we took in previous years to 're:FUEL', then you'll want to be sure to check out 'SMASH'. Our congregation is partnering with other churches in Greendale and Greenfield for a fun evening of music, faith building, and games. So remember to set aside the second Sunday of each month. Get your homework done early if you need to so you don't miss out! The first SMASH will be in November, always located at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in the village. Invite your friends.

CAST SELECTION FOR "CATCH THE SPIRIT"

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

When: October 19th during Sunday School

Contact our Discipleship Coach, Kevan Penvose: 414-258-0858 stillerz7@yahoo.com



***Next Music & Worship Meeting
Wednesday October 1, @ 6 pm***

We are now entering into October of the church calendar with many things going on. Not only do the colors of the trees change outside, but the paraments of the church sanctuary will be changing also. We are in Pentecost season with the green paraments, but will be changing to red for Reformation Day which occurs on October 31 but we will be observing it on the Sunday, October 26th. It is a day for giving thanks to Martin Luther. It is also the day the our church celebrates confirmation.

All Saint's day is November 1st, but also is celebrated on the Sunday following that date which is November 2nd this year. This day commemorates all the baptized people of God who have died in their faith. The color is White. Then we will return to green until Advent.

The Music and Worship committee is looking for members who may assist in some way but do not want to make a long term commitment. We need members who may want to assist in decorating the church sanctuary or narthex for the upcoming months, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. This may be a one time thing to do but and time that one can give us would be greatly appreciated. See Cathy Peterson or Sue Jarchow for any questions on this.

The choir concert for the church is being planned and will be held at 5:00 pm on Saturday, December 13th and the children's Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 21st. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

-Sue Jarchow

The American Guild of Organists has designated July 2008 as the International Year of the Organ. Here's a little quiz regarding the St. Stephen's organ.

Who is the builder of our organ?

- A - Wicks
- B - Casavant
- C - Steinway
- D - Ford

When was the organ built?

- A - 1968
- B - 1978
- C - 1988
- D - 1998

How many manuals does the organ have?

- A - 1 + pedals
- B - 2 + pedals
- C - 3 + pedals
- D - 4 + pedals

How many ranks does the organ have?

- A - 1
- B - 2
- C - 3
- D - 4

Who are the St. Stephen's organists? (choose two)

- A - Jan Snyder
- B - J. S. Bach
- C - Diane Bish
- D - Bill Bravener

(Thanks to First Lutheran Church, West Allis, for this idea. — Bill)

Answers: 1 - A; 2 - A; 3 - B; 4 - C; 5- A & D



New Members to Be Received October 14th

We welcome all those desiring to join SSM! An orientation session will be held on Sun., Oct. 7 @ 10:40 (immediately following the service) in the Luther Room. Please let us know if you are interested in becoming a member. Contact Pastor Gail in person or at 421-3543. A reception will follow the October 14th service in the Fellowship Hall.

Human concerns

Next meeting is October 7th at 6:30 p.m.

Call Shirley Lieske with questions: 761-0734

MT. MERU COFFEE PROJECT

Price Paid to Coffee Farmers to Increase this Fall

The Mt. Meru Coffee Project made a decision over 8 years ago to pay the coffee farmers a significant premium over market and fair trade prices. The price we have been paying to the farmers has not changed since the program began. Because the cost of living and the cost of producing coffee have increased over the years, it is time to increase the price paid to our friends in Tanzania. The price we pay the farmers for this year's production will increase by 10% and will continue to be higher than prices established by the market and Fair Trade standard.

Selling Price Paid to Increase This Fall

Beginning this fall, we will be paying the farmers more and at the same time, the costs of transportation and shipping, along with other operating costs have increased. Therefore, starting October 1st, a 12 oz. package (reg. or decaf) of Mt. Meru Coffee will be priced at \$9. The price for 4 lb. packages will be \$40. Your Mt. Meru Ambassador, Carolyn Birk, will have more details for your information. Doing Justice Never Tasted So Good!



CROP Walk—Stamp Out Hunger!

Get your walking shoes on... it's CROP Walk time again! Mark Your Calendars! CROP Walk is October 12th. We will carpool from church at 12:30 p.m. and the walk starts at McKinley Marina at 1:30 p.m. Go to the CROP Walk table in the narthex for more information.

It's not too late to walk or to sponsor walkers. Please bring your non-perishable food items to be taken down to the CROP Walk. Help to make a difference in the lives of so

many people!

You and The Flu

I can't believe the summer is over and the flu season will be here soon.

Flu shots & Pneumonia shots will be offered to SSM members in November—see next page. VNA will bill Medicare & Medicaid, just bring your cards with you. They will not bill private insurance companies, but will give a statement to send to your insurance company.

Cost: Flu shot: \$30.00

Pneumonia shot: \$45.00

Blood pressure checks will be done also. No one under 9 yrs. will be able to get a shot. Questions: see Rae Bauman, Diane Moraza or Barb Czerwinski. Roll up your sleeve and get your shot!

- Barb Czerwinski



Flu, or influenza, is a highly contagious disease that affects the whole body. For healthy adults, flu can be a moderate or severe illness resulting in days of lost time from work, school or other activities. For individuals with a chronic illness the flu can lead to pneumonia and even death.

Pneumonia can lead to serious infections of the lungs, bloodstream, and brain—sometimes resulting in death.

The Aurora Visiting Nurse Association will be giving flu shots at

St. Stephen the Martyr on Sunday, November 9th from 9 am—11 am.

Commonly asked questions:

What is the flu? Influenza is a viral illness that usually occurs between Nov. & April.

What are the symptoms? Flu symptoms include fever, chills, sore throat, cough, headache and body aches, and they usually begin abruptly.

Can flu be prevented? Yes, besides eating a healthy, balanced diet, and drinking plenty of water and liquids, and proper sleep, get a flu shot. Since flu strains change year to year, you must get the shot annually. The best time to get a flu shot is from Oct. to Dec. Cover your nose when you sneeze or cough and wash hands frequently.

Who should get the flu shot?

- Women pregnant during flu season
- Anyone 50 years of age or older
- Anyone with long-term health problems
- Anyone with a weakened immune system
- Household contacts and caregivers of children from birth to 5 years of age
- Household contacts and caregivers of people 50 years and older, and those who are at risk of serious complications from influenza
- Anyone 9 or older who wants to reduce the risk of catching the flu.

Can I get the flu from the shot? No. The viruses in the vaccine are killed so the shot is not infectious. Some people react with a sore arm for a day or two.

How serious are flu & pneumonia? They are one of the 10 leading causes of death.

PROPERTY

Join the SSM SNOW TEAM!

The Property Committee is looking for three teams of 2 persons each to help with snow-shoveling at SSM this winter.

Please call Jim Arneson if you would be willing to volunteer your time: 414-281-2987.

GARBAGE REMOVAL

Property Committee is looking for a few volunteers to be substitutes in helping with trash removal in the event of our regulars being indisposed.

Please call Jim Arneson if you would like to help: 414-281-2987.

OTHER NOTES

Hurricane Season 2008

A series of severe storms has battered and beleaguered neighbors in the Caribbean and Gulf Coast regions. High winds have damaged buildings and floods have destroyed homes, crops, and supplies, washed away roads and bridges, and contaminated water sources.

Along the UW Gulf Coast, where long-term recovery from the 2005 hurricanes still continues, families are once again facing the trauma of floods and evacuations. ELCA Domestic Disaster Response is underway—pastors and chaplains are present to offer spiritual and emotional care and Lutheran Disaster Response coordinators are meeting with communities to assess needs, implement response strategies, and prepare for storms yet to come.

In Haiti, families already struggling with the "silent disaster" of hunger and extreme poverty were hit by four hurricanes in a row. Many have been driven from their homes and further separated from the resources necessary for survival. As part of the Lutheran World Federation, and also in cooperation with fellow Action by Churches Together (ACT) members, the ELCA will continue to walk with its long-term partners in Haiti, providing emergency supplies to save lives and working to restore farms and livelihoods. The Cuban Council of Churches, also an ACT member, is coordinating hurricane response in Cuba. Your Gifts and prayers are urgently needed. Thanks be to God for a love that know no bounds.

Yes, I want to help!	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hurricane Response—U.S.A	\$ _____ DDG0073
<input type="checkbox"/> Hurricane Response—Latin America/Caribbean	\$ _____ IDG0054
<input type="checkbox"/> ELCA Disaster Response: Where needed most	\$ _____ DDG0060
Name _____	
Address _____	
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____	

Please make your check payable to St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church and place in the offering. Note "ELCA Disaster Response" on the check's memo line; place in the offering ASAP, or send to church office. All funds will be sent to our Greater Milwaukee Synod office and sent on to ELCA International Disaster Relief. 100% of your gift will be used as you designate. For more info visit www.elca.org/disaster. Thank you for your generosity in this great time of need.

Help Keep Our Records Up to Date so we can Keep You Up-to-Date!

Are you moving? Do you have an address, phone number, e-mail or status change, a new addition in your family, an adult child moving out? Don't forget to contact your church to report any changes for your family records.

Would you like to receive the Martyr Monthly in your church mailbox? Call the office @ 414-421-3543 or email us at ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com.

Do you have a story or pictures to share? Email them to the above address.

Looking for amazing gifts?

Third World Shoppe—A Mission Outreach of Capitol Drive Lutheran Church
Made by Artisans from 42 countries—Fair Trade income for craftsmen
5305 W. Capitol Drive, Milwaukee, WI
Call for Hours: 445-2065

COUNCIL MINUTES

CONDENSED MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2008

(A complete set of Minutes can be found on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex)

All Council members were present except C. Raasch. Pastor Gail Brodersen-Heins and Kevan Penrose were present. Pastor Gail led the devotion.

Approvals: The Secretary's minutes from the August 14th meeting were reviewed with no corrections. The Financial Secretary's Report was reviewed. The Treasurer's Report was discussed. We are currently \$11,564.98 short in weekly offerings. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Pastor's Time: Pastor gave a big thank-you to S. Rosenstock and all who helped in any way to make the Rally Day picnic a huge success. Confirmation and SS classes have begun. She asked that we pray for teachers and students alike.

Ninth graders will be confirmed on Sunday, 10/26 at 9:30 service.

New members will be received on Sunday, 11/2/08 and on 9/27 she will begin a five week class for those wishing to join SSM that come from non-Lutheran backgrounds. Two orientation sessions have also been scheduled for 10/19 and 10/26.

The CROP Walk is scheduled for 10/12 and K. Sachse is the chair of the event.

The weekend of 9/27 and 9/28, the Women of the ELCA will celebrate Thanksgiving service, emphasizing Women's ministry near and far. Pastor made a motion that a special offering envelope be placed in the bulletin to encourage members to contribute to various ministries supported by Women of the ELCA. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Action Items:

Update on Building Foundation Work -nothing new to report.

Background Check Resolution - was tabled as an agenda item for the Council for their upcoming retreat.

Fall Retreat Items - J. Muroi asked for suggestions for agenda items. It was suggested that the Forward Planning Committee do a presentation, a youth organizer from another church do a presentation on how to keep young people involved in church activities and to have a meet and greet with B. Bravener, the new Music and Choir Director.

New Action Items: S. Jarchow asked the Council to consider replacing the hand-rail on the steps as the current one is not sufficient.

Committee Reports:

Human Concerns - S. Lieske reported that her committee is finishing the school bag project and planning flu shots and blood pressure checks for 11/9/08.

Stewardship C. Malinowki reported that Walk with Jesus was selected as the theme for Commitment Weekend and that Temple Talks will be held on October 4th, 5th, 11th and 12th.

Fellowship - S. Rosenstock reported that Reformation Day is planned for 10/26 at 6 PM and a reception for B. Bravener is scheduled for 11/23 with Bishop Stumme-Diers.

Property: J. Arneson said that he is still looking for retired members during the winter months to help B. Bromwell with the shoveling duties. We are also in need of one more Greendale resident to help take trash to the Greendale dump. We are also looking for a new contractor for snow plowing the parking lots.

Christian Education - E. Sanders reported that S. Mayer is already working with the SS children on the upcoming Christmas program

Family Ministries - K. Penvose reported that our church will collaborate with the youth from churches in Greenfield and Greendale on the second Sunday of the month in a program entitled SMASH. -

Rosy, Mursal, Barake Family Update - J. Bugajski reported that Omar has settled in at Marquette University and doing well.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M. . The next Council meeting will be held during the retreat scheduled for Friday, October 10th and Saturday, October 11th, 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shellee Lubus,

Council Secretary

PHONE 414-421-3543 · FAX 414-421-3543 · 6101 S 51st St, Greendale, WI 53129 · SSM@ststephenthemartyr.com

Contact Webmaster webmaster@ststephenthemartyr.com