

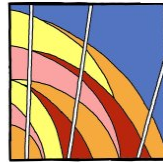
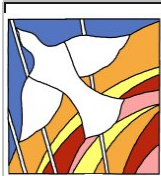


St. Stephen the Martyr, ELCA

We come together in Word and Sacrament that we might go to live and serve in the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



the MARTYR MONTHLY

May 2010 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

Mon-Thur 9 AM - 1 PM
Fri 9 AM - 12 PM

SSM Staff

Gail Brodersen-Heins, Pastor
pastorgail@ststephenthemartyr.com
Bill Bravener, Music Director
bbravener@ststephenthemartyr.com
Lynda Shadd, Office Administrator
ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com
Bob Brownell, Maintenance
Bob De Frank, Sunday School Superintendent
Janet Snyder, Organist



Vacation Bible School—June 21-25

Kids, set sail this summer on a High Seas adventure and loads of VBS fun! Feel the sea spray on your face and watch the sea gulls soar overhead as you experience the deep rolling waters of God's love! Join us Monday, June 21 - Friday, June 25 4:45 to 8:15 pm \$20 per child or \$40 per family, for ages 3 to completed 5th grade Dinner is included!

Registration forms are on the Sunday School bulletin board.
Station Leader & Crew Leader Training Meeting
Sunday, June 13th, 10:45 a.m. following the 9:30 service.
Meeting in lower level preschool room



inside this issue:

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- Council Minutes

\$20 Scholarships are still needed—See Sue DeFrank if you can help!

From Pastor's Desk

Thanks to Those Who Give Fatherly Care!

Father's Day is the third Sunday in June. This year it's June 20. The idea for creating a day to honor fathers began in Spokane, Washington. Sonora Smart Dodd came up with the idea while listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909. Raised by her father, Henry Jackson Smart, after her mother died, Sonora wanted her father to know how special he was to her. He was the one who made all the parental sacrifices and was, in his daughter's eyes, a courageous, selfless and loving man. Sonora's father was born in June, so she chose June 19th for the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane.

In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge supported the idea of a national Father's Day. In 1966 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday in June as Father's Day.

Father's Day is a time to honor all the men who give fatherly care. Grandfathers, stepfathers, uncles, baptismal sponsors, and friends can be honored. Some children do not have responsible, unselfish fathers. Some children are fatherless. Some do not have good relationships with their fathers. There is great opportunity for all men to share their time with children, teens and young adults. So many men are wise and skilled in so many areas of life. So many men are responsible and fun for children to learn from.

Take time to give thanks to God for these unselfish men on the third weekend in June and always! Thank you gentlemen!

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While the pace of life changes in the summer, there are still so many things in which to participate. I hope that SSM members will respond to the invitation to send their children, grandchildren, and perhaps, neighbor children to Vacation Bible School. The walls of St. Stephen the Martyr will ring out with the joyous sounds of singing, lively conversations, Bible stories, laughter, and just plain fun during the week of June 21-25. Pick up a registration form if you haven't done so. There are scholarships to cover the \$20 fee if needed. Contact the church office or Bob and Sue DeFrank if you have questions.

And all members are encouraged to visit Vacation Bible School on June 21-25 between 5 and 8:15 p.m. You'll be amazed and glad you came to see the Holy Spirit living and working among the children and adults.

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Enjoy the beauty of God's good creation this summer! Relax and renew your spirit. Look for God in the good works that are happening. Keep doing what you are called to do as disciples. And see you at worship, where we experience renewal of our spirits, life and hope.

Your Partner in the Gospel,

Pastor Gail

Evangelism

Our New Member Meet, Greet and Reconnect breakfast was held on Saturday, morning, May 1st. Twenty new members from the last 3 years were joined by committee members.

Pastor Gail opened with prayer. An opening icebreaker was followed by great food and a discussion on how both positive and negative St. Stephen's is working for them.

Thanks to my great committee for all their hard work in putting this together:

Jenny Koeff, John Rech and Lynne and Keith Myren.

- Jim Hennessy

Family Ministry News

The next Family Gathering will be held on July 24th. Families of all "sizes" (1 or more) are welcome to attend! Time and location is to be determined. Watch for details in the bulletin mini-newsletter.

30-Hour Famine Update

This month we would like to send thanks to Kori Kriewaldt for organizing the 30 Hour Famine. We had a total of 15 participants with adults and teens from Adoration joining us. While having fun, it was also educational. We collected \$519.03 thanks to all who donated to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. A special thank-you needs to be sent out for the large donation made during the collection.

Spaghetti Dinner a Success

The spaghetti dinner was a great success thanks to all who helped and attended. Thank you so very much for supporting the families and teens that are planning on attending Family Camp at Imago Dei Village in August.

Helpers are Needed for VBS

Vacation Bible School will be held June 21st-25th. Please contact Bob & Sue DeFrank or Stephanie Gordon if you are available to help!

On Sunday, June 27th, some of the children who attended Vacation Bible School will be singing songs which they learned during the week. After the service, a cookout will be held to help raise funds for Family Camp.

Camping Fun

We will be "camping" in the Northwoods again, July 30th-August 1. Please contact Char Guilliani 801-7349 or Shelley Metzler 801-7340 for further details.

Family Camp at Imago Dei

We are going to Family Camp at Imago Dei Village from August 15th-20th and it's not too late to register! Everyone is welcome! We will be building Faith Chests to be presented in the upcoming year. Please contact Char Guilliani, Stephanie Gordon or Tim Falksen for more information.

Nursery Helpers Needed

This Fall

We are looking for helpers in the Kiddie Keep for the fall service schedule in the during 9:30 am services.

You don't have to be on the permanent schedule, you can volunteer to fill in once in a while—great opportunity for youth needing service hours! If you'd be willing to help, contact Paige Ceku at 526-1950. Thanks!

Graduates of 2010, Congratulations!

We will be recognizing all our graduates at the June 5th & 6th worship services (5 pm Saturday & 9:30 a.m. Sunday). Please join us for a special time of prayer at one or both of these services to bless them in their future endeavors.

To all who are graduating in 2010, either from High School, College, Tech School or University, we celebrate with you one of the great moments of your lives. As you stand at the gate of your future, we would like to congratulate each one of you for the degree you've earned. Our prayer for you is that the Lord will continue to guide you and lead you. Place your hand in God's hand and walk boldly into your future!

We apologize if we have missed anyone in the following list. Congrats to all!

Congratulations to our high school graduates!

James Elliott, Oak Creek—attending U of Anchorage, AL in fall

Chelsea Gagliano, Franklin, attending MATC in fall

Kyle Giesenschlag, Oak Creek, attending UW-Whitewater in fall

Kayla Stawicki, Franklin, attending UW-Platteville, WI in fall

Congratulations to all our college graduates!

Dana Gorecki, UW-Milwaukee, BS in Radiologic Technology

Sarah Jacobsen, UW-Madison, BA Spanish & Marketing

Elizabeth Lubus, UW-Whitewater, BA in Business Admin-Marketing

Gina Muron, UW-Madison, Master of Accountancy

Emily Raasch, St. Olaf's, BA in English

Janina Wesolowski, UW-Whitewater, Women's Studies & Adult Ed.,

beginning Masters in Adult Education in fall

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord ... plans to give you hope and a future.." Jeremiah 29:11

Contact our Council Chair for Family Ministries

Char Guliani

minizmom@yahoo.com & on Facebook

Fellowship

1ST FRIDAY POTLUCK COME CELEBRATE SUMMER!

The Pot Luck will be June 4th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come celebrate the coming of summer! There will be delicious brats and pulled pork, and you are asked to bring salads or other side dishes, buns, or desserts. A donation of \$2 is asked for the meat. Please sign up on the bulletin board near the office and indicate what you will bring.

And--Bring a summer joke or two or a summer story or humorous vacation story to share. ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS are WELCOME, especially those who live alone.

NOTE: There will be no Pot Luck in July or August. Mark your calendars now for the September 3rd Pot Luck!
- Questions? See Sue Jarchow or Pastor Gail

Diakonia... equipping the saints, building up the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:12
"diakonia gave me an in-depth understanding that I did not previously have."

"I find that I cannot grow spiritually without sharing my faith with others. The members in the class have become my friends in Christ."

The church today needs and recognizes strong, knowledgeable leadership among the laity.

diakonia™ provides systematic training to adults during a two-year program of weekly classes in Bible, theology and church history as well as practical ministry. This course of study, combined with spiritual retreats and group interaction, helps train people for the many diverse tasks and opportunities to which Christ's Great Commission directs them.

For further information, please pick up a brochure in the narthex (kiosk) or go to www.thediakoniaprogram.org (or see Pastor Gail).

Classes for the 2010-11 school year will be held in Milwaukee, Oconomowoc, Racine and Cedarburg.

Human concerns

NEXT MEETING IS

JUNE 1ST - 6:30 PM Call Carol Birk, 421-6162, with any questions.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

We will collect food for Bay View Community Center Food Pantry for the month of June.

"Anyone who gives generously will be blessed, because they share their food with those who are poor."
Proverbs 22:9

CONTINUING TO HELP THE COMMUNITY

Please help SSM benefit from 1% of YOUR Pick 'N Save purchases!

Just register at the Customer Service Desk and tell them you would like to have St. Stephen the Martyr as your designated charity.

Our #813560.

ADULT DAY SERVICES for those with brain injuries or physical or mental disabilities

by Goodwill Industries,

Funded by Milwaukee County

Open to adults of all ages

Monday thru Friday - 8:30--4:30 pm

Held at Christ United Methodist Church

5200 S., 48th St., Greenfield

Contact: Leslie Chisholm

421-2328

Big Pants to Fill

We will again be collecting items for our soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq. This collection will run from Saturday, June 13 to Sunday, July 4th, Flag Day to Independence Day.

Here is a list of items needed and enjoyed by our service men and women:

Gum

Candy (nothing that melts)

Summer Sausage

Pens and Paper

Chapstick, Lipstick, Carmex, etc.

Batteries

Magazines

Books

Playing cards

Individual packs of nuts, crackers, snacks (Large packages fill with dust before eaten)

Dice

Personal items (toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant etc.)

A new item this year is 'unused' Christmas Cards and envelopes. Service men and women cannot purchase these overseas to send back to their families. If you have extra unused cards you can donate them to this cause.

- Pam Gustafson

The SSM Green Team

Are We Green?

The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for God has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. Psalm 24:1-2

The Bible tells us that we are to take care of God's creation—all of the earth community. To be more conscious and purposeful about the way that we live in harmony with other life and preserve the earth for future directions, St. Stephen the Martyr has formed a "Green Team." The purpose of this team is to promote environmental wellness for both our congregation as a whole and for members within our individual lives.

The team has met twice and discussed numerous ideas on how to be a congregation that intentionally celebrates and restores creation. Some ideas the team is considering include: promoting the use of reusable bags, increasing recycling efforts, researching information on green cleaning products, including environmental tips in the weekly bulletin inserts, and adopting the College Ave. green space next to our building for the purposes of trash clean-up and removal of invasive plants.

All are welcome to join the Green Team and share your ideas. The next meeting is Wednesday, June 2 at 6:30 in the Luther Room. For more information, contact any member of the committee. See SSM directory for phone numbers.

Committee members:

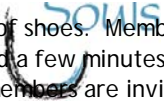
Denise Sanders, Julie Starks, Shelly Rosenstock, Jerry Seroka, Linda Chaplock, Dick Rutzen, Erin Clark, Mary Rockstad, Carol Birk, Deb Perl, & Gail Brodersen-Heins

Reduce ? Reuse ? Recycle



St. Stephen the Martyr will participate in the Soles4Souls National Barefoot Week, June 1-6

"Barefoot Saturday" and "Barefoot Sunday", June 5 and 6, offers unique opportunities for worshippers to remove their shoes and walk out of worship services barefoot. The U.S. government estimates that over 300 million children around the world don't own a single

 pair of shoes. Members will have the opportunity to not only donate a pair of new or gently used shoes but to spend a few minutes experiencing what so many in the world live every day - walking without shoes. All members are invited to bring in a pair of new or gently used shoes or sandals to leave at the altar area on June 5 or 6 at the end of each service. Whether you are able to exit barefoot or not, please remember those without shoes of any kind especially during the first week of June. Want to know more about Soles4Souls and Barefoot Week? Go to www.soles4souls.org and/or www.barefootweek.com
(by Julie Starks, 414-483-0122, jastarks@earthlink.net)

Music & Worship

Music & Worship Meeting June 2nd at 6 p.m.

Co-Chairs: Sue Jarchow, 526-9785 & Cathy Peterson, 325-6628

We are inviting all SSM members to come and talk, share ideas and join on the Music & Worship committee. We welcome all.

There are new usher, greeter and communion schedules for the summer months arriving in your mailbox at church. Please check them for the times and dates that you scheduled, write them on your calendar so that you do not miss out on all of the important things that you for SSM and the worship services.

If you cannot make one of the times. please switch with another SSM member and let Lynda Shadd in the office know for changes to the bulletins.

We will continue to have special music, summer choir and hymn sings throughout the summer at the worship services.

Did you know that we have over 20% of the congregation at SSM involved in the worship services. This is really awesome and we say thank you for your commitment.

Shepherd's Corner Library

Our church librarians, Carol Birk and Cindy Wagner, are doing a great job of keeping our library well stocked with interesting and inspirational media to encourage us in our walk with God. From humor to church history, quality fiction to books on spiritual direction in life, no matter your age or status, you can find a book here to speak to you as you grow in God's truth.

Shepherd's Corner provides great books, DVDs and videos for summer faith-building time and just plain fun.

Parents, keep your children reading all summer with our large selection of graded reading.

If you haven't done so, check it out soon!

Music Notes from Bill Bravener

Director of Music/Associate in Ministry

Summer Choir will meet the first Sunday of each month at 8:30 a.m. to rehearse an anthem for the 9:30 a.m. worship service. All are welcome. The dates are:

June 6, July 4, and August 1.

Summer Handbell Choir will meet on the last two Sundays of July and August at 8:45 a.m. and will ring on the last Sundays of those months. All are welcome. The dates are: July 18 & 25 and August 22 & 29.

Summer hymn sings will be 10 minutes prior to worship on the second weekends of the month. Please think of your favorite hymn to suggest on: June 12 & 13, July 10 & 11, and August 7 & 8.

See you at worship.

- Bill

Stewardship

The Lone Ranger and Tonto were camping on the range. The two frontiersmen pitched their tent, and before long fell fast asleep. During the night, Tonto woke up and studied the night sky. A few minutes later, he woke the masked man and told him to look at the sky and tell him what he saw. The Lone Ranger thought for a moment, "Astronomically speaking" he began, "I see thousands of stars spread out in hundreds of galaxies all across the universe. In terms of astrology I can see that Gemini is in the house of Leo. Thinking chronologically, the time is 3:15 a.m. In a meteorological way of looking at things, tomorrow seems likely to be a pretty nice day. Theologically, one can see that the Great Spirit has far more knowledge than you and I ever will."

"Why?" the Lone Ranger asked. "What do you see, Tonto?"

His friend didn't blink. "Kemosabé, I see someone stole our tent."

This story illustrates that we sometimes overlook the obvious and make things too difficult. Keep it simple! We can learn from the Lone Ranger's faithful friend and not overlook what's right in front of us. Ask, Give, Grow!

It is important for all of us, as members of St. Stephen, to encourage one another to get involved; to give of our time, talent, and financial resources. When we simply ask, (in a kind way), people will respond positively. Keeping it simple! We would like to ask you to remember St. Stephen the Martyr in your giving during these summer months, when many are traveling and vacationing.

-from Vic Peterson and Your Stewardship Committee

*story is from ELCA Stewardship Now



The Women's Bible Study will meet during the summer on the second Wednesday. This month it will be June 9th @ 10:15 am. All are invited to come as we study the following Sunday's Scripture texts.

LOOSE ENDS LUNCHEON

Where: Red Lobster on 76th, near Layton Ave.

When: Wed., June 9th

Time: 11:45 a.m.

Please sign up by June 6th on the kiosk in the narthex. Indicate if you will need a ride from your home or if you want to car-pool from church. We will leave church around 11:30 a.m. Questions: Contact Karen Hoffman (414) 421-9249.

ORGANIZERS NEEDED FOR LOOSE ENDS MONTHLY LUNCHEONS

We are still in need of women who are willing to help with the organization of the Loose End's monthly luncheons. It is not a difficult responsibility and only involves one to two months a year for each organizer. Merely determine where the luncheon will be held, contact the restaurant with an approximate number attending, then send Lynda Shadd a notice of the date and location for the SSM Newsletter and place a sign-up sheet on the kiosk about three weeks before the event. Finally call the restaurant a few days before the luncheon with a final count.

ONE WOMAN NEEDED TO SERVE AS A VOTING MEMBER (delegate) at this year's annual Greater Milwaukee, Women of the ELCA Convention being held on October 1-2 at Atonement Lutheran Church, located just off Janesville Road, west of Moorland in Muskego. Please direct your questions/interest to Carole Ropel by the middle of June. If you choose to represent the women of St. Stephen the Martyr, your Registration Fee will be paid by our church. See the following information about the Convention for more detail.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION WOMEN OF THE ELCA—GREATER MILWAUKEE

Mark your calendar and send in your Registration:

WHEN: October 1-2, 2010

WHERE: Atonement Lutheran Church, 16244 Martin Dr, Muskego

THEME: "Fill My Cup, Lord" - John 4:15

COST: Early Bird - \$65 for both days, \$40 - Saturday only

Cost after August 9th - \$75 both days - \$45 - Saturday

Scholarships available through our church or may be applied for through our Gr. Milwaukee Women of ELCA. We will gather for business on Friday evening following a dinner. On Saturday, we will begin the day with worship, followed by opportunities to attend a variety of workshops, we'll hear from Charleen Walker-Horton, who will bring greetings and information from our Churchwide President, Beth Wrenn, we'll enjoy a luncheon together, witness the installation of the newly elected SWO Board and much more. Don't miss this opportunity to be in fellowship with women from our Greater Milwaukee Synod.

PLEASE CALL Carole Ropel at 262-523-4130 with questions and/or your offer to serve on any of the matters listed on this page. Thank you.

Other Notes

Stone's Throw Blog

INTRODUCING OUR NEW BLOG: STONE'S THROW

Check Out Our New Blog!

Why Stone's Throw? With this blog, we are just a "stone's throw" from conversation with fellow members of St. Stephen the Martyr. And the stone is a reference to how Stephen was killed and became the first martyr for the early Church. As we get familiar with the blog format our topics may expand to include other events going on at SSM.

Stone's Throw will begin with a book discussion of the bestseller "Three Cups of Tea" by Mortenson and Relin.

For more information on the author's work in building schools go to: www.ikat.org

Want to participate? What to do next? We begin our discussion of "Three Cups of Tea" on June 1st.

Find a copy of the book and begin reading.

Go to: www.threecupsoftea.com and note the reading guide questions.

Go to: www.ststephenthemartyr.com, click on Stone's Throw on the left side panel, read the posted comments and add your thoughts!

Happy Father's Day! June 20, 2010

"Fathers, like mothers, are not born. Men grow into fathers- and fathering is a very important stage in their development." -D. Gottesman

"The greatest gift I ever had came from God, and I call him Dad!" -Author Unknown

"I cannot think of any need in childhood as strong as the need for a father's protection." - Sigmund Freud

"A man's children and his garden both reflect the amount of weeding done during the growing season." - Author Unknown

"Dad wanted us to be Christians, and took us to church regularly. I'm so glad he did." - Anonymous (Studies show that if the mother of a family attends worship, there's a 16 percent chance that the rest of the family will also attend. Yet when a father attends worship, there's a 93 percent chance that other family members will be present, also. Just think, Dad, of the clout you have. Hope to see you in church this weekend!)

Highlights of Council Minutes, May 11, 2010

Members present: J. Muroi, E. Sanders, J. Covert, J. Arneson, C. Peterson, J. Miller, S. Jarchow, J. Bugajski, S. Lieske, & Pastor Gail.

Correspondence: Pastor Gail read thank you letter from Central City Food Pantry for the \$901.50 collected from the Easter Breakfast.

Financial Secretary: Thanks to those who've donated to the Pastor's discretionary fund.

Treasurer, J. Bugajski said as of May 9, 2010, total offerings were short \$2,094.41 or 98.08% of weekly budgeted amount.

Pastor's Time: Pastor Gail expressed thanks to B. Bravener and E. Sanders for leading the Book of Faith series. She had two baptisms in May, Eric R. Heins & Rylie S. Winter.

Pastor was asked by Gideon Bible Association if they could speak at SSM. Council voted in agreement.

Old Action Item: Cong. Mtg. on May 23rd at 10:30 a.m. Pam Gustafson nominated for Human Concerns Co-Chair. Still looking for someone to fill Fellowship Chair. Installation will be weekend of June 5-6 at both services.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship—2011 envelopes ordered. New stewardship theme and program is being looked into. Giving letter going out this weekend. Thinking about a recognition program for stewardship for members to the church: i.e. "church member of the month."

Christian Education—June 21-25 is VBS. In need of volunteers as well as donations for scholarships. Santa Fe Lutheran will be joining SSM for a “High Sea Adventure.” Finished “Book of Faith” Series with 14 participants. Will present the next book in fall.

Property—Fire Inspection was done. Repairs were required and completed on sprinkler system. Small lawn mower broke down, will need to purchase another. Will use monies from church improvement loan. The “Green Committee” is addressing environmental issues around church, including putting out recycle bins around church, researching programmable thermostats for Fellowship Hall, motion lighting for restrooms, replacing windows in office.

Music and Worship—Preparations are underway for Pentecost, May 22/23. Summer worship times will begin on May 30th. J. Bugajski reported that Y. Mohamed’s family is continuing process of getting green cards. Yusuf is signed up for UW-Milwaukee classes for social work.

Human Concerns—Rummage Sale is May 22. P. Gustafson is advertising in Journal and Community papers. Youth will be serving food. Yearly collection for servicemen starts Flag Day, June 14th and runs through July 4th. May Day care baskets were made and brought to shut-ins.

Women of the ELCA is having the Spring Event at Immanuel Lutheran in Watertown, May 14/15. Pastor Gail is preaching Saturday morning.

Family and Youth Ministries, Fellowship and Evangelism committees had no reports.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Peterson, Music & Worship Co-Chair

standing in for Shellee Lubus

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