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THE DEACON'S SPIRIT

The newsletter of St. Stephen Lutheran Church



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Office Hours:
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays
from 8am—3pm

Deadlines:
Bulletin: Wednesday by 8:00 a.m.
Newsletter: 3rd Thursday of the month.

Facebook:
Join us to watch a livestream service
every Sunday at 9am at
<https://www.facebook.com/wausausslc>

Worship Telecast:
Our Worship Services are telecast on
cable channel 980 on Sundays at 12pm
(this is the previous Sundays' service),
Mondays at 3pm, and Tuesdays at
10am and 10:30pm.



*In
God's Grace
each dawn is a gift
and every day a miracle...*

*To every thing
there is a season,
and a time to every purpose
under the heaven.*

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

FROM OUR NEW PASTOR

Greetings dear friends! I am (soon to be) Pastor Karoline Schwantes and I can't wait to meet you and to become a part of your community! Yes, this is a lot of exclamation marks, but St. Stephen is my first call and this is a very exciting time for me (for us)!

My ordination is coming up on August 3rd and will be held at Saint Andrew, my sending congregation. I am a recent graduate of Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa where I engaged my studies as a distance student, "zooming" even before the pandemic. This allowed me to mostly remain at my home in Kronenwetter, where I live with my husband, 2 teenagers, 2 cats, and sometimes a dog. I did my chaplaincy unit in La Crosse for a summer and my internship year was in Minocqua, so the last several years have been full of many adventures.

I grew up in Illinois and Wisconsin. My undergraduate degree was in business administration from UW Stevens Point, which is where I met my husband, Ryan. We moved to the Wausau area shortly after our graduation and wedding and have lived here ever since. I have been a stay-at-home mom for many years and was involved in a lot of volunteering. I've spent a lot of time in children's and youth ministry, as well as being an active member of lay school before discerning a call to ordained ministry. In fact, the last week in July I will be spending the whole week at church camp.

Along with my family, I love reading, music, and traveling. I am a crafty artist. I love to play with all sorts of different mediums, including papercrafts, sewing, quilting, crocheting, art journaling, painting, and mixed media. Another fact about me is that I have celiac, so I must eat a strictly gluten free diet. I am also a breast cancer survivor. It was detected and treated early, so I have a lot to celebrate.

I remain continually astounded at the amazing places and ways I've been led by the Holy Spirit. I am very excited to get to know you and to hear your stories! Together we will explore the impact of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and listen how God is calling us into ministry!

Pastor Karoline

FROM OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Greetings SSLC Family! I hope this message finds you enjoying the wonderful Wisconsin weather. Yes, sometimes the humidity is too much but come January we will be wishing for some heat. Watching the news, I feel quite fortunate to put up with the few days of being uncomfortable compared to the heat, drought, storms, and wild fires other parts of our world are experiencing. I pray for those affected and for the leaders as they deal with those situations.

August this year brings some added excitement as we welcome Rev. Karoline Schwantes to become our next spiritual leader. I look forward to partnering with her as our ministries at SSLC continue to move forward. Please welcome her and her family with open hearts and open minds.

Although it is only August, I feel the need to reach out and ask those who are able to consider becoming part of the SSLC Council. If you remember, many of us extended our terms from what is allowed by our constitution in order to maintain continuity through the transition. That and no one volunteered. This church cannot run effectively without people stepping up to lead. I have been fortunate to be part of councils where everyone shared in the responsibilities, so when it comes to making decisions no one was left doing the heavy lifting. Hopefully we are through the challenges of the pandemic (fingers crossed) and we have partnered with a new Pastor. I look forward to what the future holds. Please prayerfully consider stepping up to lead or at the very least join a committee to help move the missions of SSLC forward.

Thank you all for your continued prayers and support. Financially we are stable at this point in part to the fact that we have not been paying a full time Pastor's salary for more than a year. Along with that, the markets were good allowing our trust funds to share their earnings to help the community as well as projects around our facilities. If you follow the financial market reports you know that this year will see a different story. Thankfully we are taking on the Pastor's salary again which is necessary to maintain a viable congregation, but we will need your continued financial support as you are able.

Until our paths cross again, God Bless.

Lloyd

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



Birthday Blessings

The following people are celebrating August Birthdays.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

August 2nd

Michael Holster

August 6th

Kolton Kershaw

Bonnie Von Rueden

August 7th

Mathew Burish

John Jorgensen

August 8th

Rhonda Will

August 9th

Bill Dunker

Gene Simmerman

Gail Wolfe

August 10th

Glenda Modrzejewski

August 14th

Patti Mortenson

Greg Koch

August 15th

Delia Kole

Randy Nielson

August 16th

Joanne Lewitzke

August 17th

Harmony Gosch

August 18th

Evelyn Lenoble

Karen Prigge

Carol Seymour

August 19th

Wendy Zimmel

August 20th

Joseph Mohr

August 22nd

Kari Van Natta

August 24th

Riley Kromrei

August 25th

Hannah den Otter

August 28th

Carla Eberhardy

Betty Lou Peterson

August 30th

Larry Frick



Anniversaries

The following couples are celebrating their August Wedding Anniversaries.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

August 2nd

Stephan & Candi den Otter

Verlyn & Kathleen Oelke

August 3rd

Dennis & Sharon Lohrey

August 6th

Randy & Crystal Nielson

August 8th

John & Norma Bandock

Alex & Jacquelyn Schremp

August 9th

William & Cathy Bandock

August 11th

Mark & Tammy Kromrei

Seth & Jeanette Wiskow

August 14th

Scott & Vicki Romang

August 18th

Alan & Dawn Froehlich

August 20th

Michael & Debra Zahrt

August 29th

James & Carol Sekaney

August 31st

Chuck & Susan Johnson



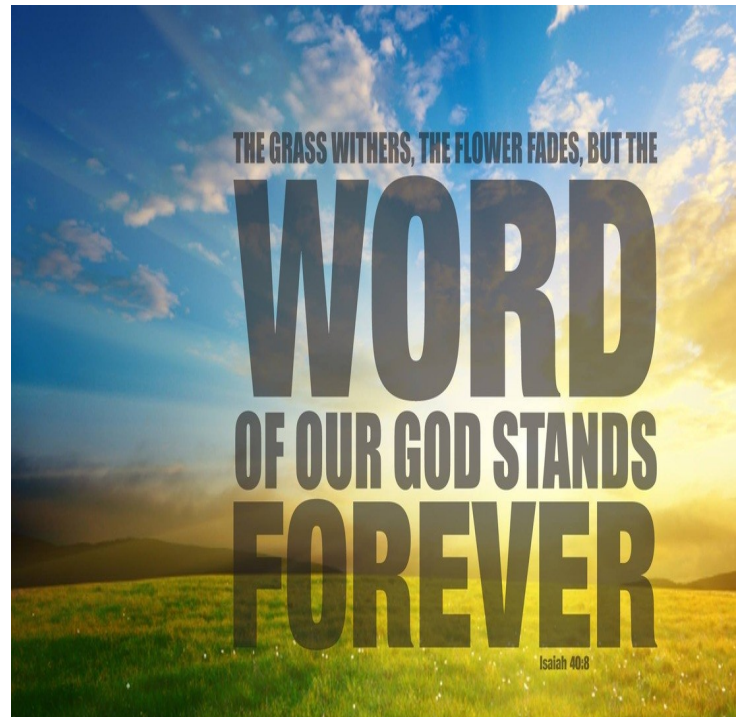
Funerals

"...in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God..."

Arleen Shipway ~ June 30, 2022

Grace Pregont ~ July 2, 2022

Arlynn Schneider ~ July 19, 2022



Good Stewards Committee News

In upcoming months, the Good Stewards Committee will be organizing some activities for the members of St. Stephen. These activities are:

- God’s Work Our Hands on Sunday, September 11th
- Coats for Kids Winter Clothing Drive starting in October
- Community Dinner on Sunday, November 27th

Watch the Deacon’s Spirit and church bulletins for more details!

Lutheran World Relief Kits

It’s time to start thinking about Lutheran World Relief Kits! As well as shipping quilts, we also put together Personal Care Kits and School Kits. Our goal is to assemble 75 Personal Care Kits and 70 School Kits. You can help by donating the following items: bath towels (dark colors), bar soap (4oz. bars), 70-80 page spiral notebooks wide or college ruled (no loose-leaf paper), and black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink). We will be assembling the kits on Thursday, September 15th beginning at 8:30am. Anyone in the congregation is welcome to come and help us assemble the kits, pack them, and get them ready for shipping. Donated items can be placed in the Quilting Room/Nursery or under the coat rack across from the elevator on the first floor. If you have any questions, please talk to any of the quilters. Thank you!

Quilting Supplies Needed

We are in need of the following supplies for Lutheran World Relief Quilting:

1. **Flat sheets** – Any size or color (preferably not white), clean, free of stains, and no holes
2. **Fabric** – Any size or color (big enough for our Quilters to cut 6” squares or larger)
3. **Mattress Pads, Blankets, etc.** – Any size or color, as long as they are clean/washed
4. **Thread & Yarn** – Any color

If you would like to donate to this cause, bring your items to church and place them in the Nursery (at the end of the hall; last door on left). You may continue placing quilting supplies in this location throughout the year. Thank you in advance for your help!

Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Beginning July 16th, everyone across the United States will be able to dial 988 to connect to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched nationally.

Benevolence

Through your support of St. Stephen in the month of June 2022, we were able to contribute to the following ministry:

ELCA National & Synod Support \$511

This is the fourth month of our unified budget in which we now give four and one half percent (4.5%) of our current expense receipts and loose plate offerings for benevolence. The above amount is based on the income of \$11,245 for June.

St. Stephen Family Checkbook

For the month of June 2022 and the year to date, the St. Stephen family checkbook looked like this:

June 1—30, 2022	
What we received.....	\$14,957.
What we spent.....	(\$12,690.)
Our balance.....	\$ 2,267.
January 1— June 30, 2022	
What we received.....	\$103,650.
What we spent.....	(\$ 95,390.)
Our balance.....	\$ 8,260.

Order of Importance of Memorials and Other Special Offerings

Primary Funds: Technology Fund, Current Expense Receipts, and Sustainability Trust Fund.

Secondary Funds: Bell Choir Fund, Brick Maintenance (tuck pointing), Building Improvement Fund, Choral Fund, ELCA Scholarship Fund, Good Neighbor Fund, Library Fund, Organ Fund, Quilters Memorial Fund, Parish House Alarm, and WELCA Clean Water Fund.

Other Funds: Confirmation/National Youth Gathering, Faith Enrichment Fund, Major Church Improvement, Missionary Sponsorship, Rooted in Faith (Crossways Capital Improvement) Fund, Seidel/Meyer Scholarship, Seminary Scholarship, and World Hunger.

JUNE 2022 MEMORIALS**In loving memory of Richard Lind**

Technology Fund -- \$885
Family & Friends

Banner Fund

In loving memory of Dave Hardinger –
Sarah Lonsdorf

Outside Flowers

In loving memory of my Wife, Betty –
Jim Boerner

Sustainability Trust Fund

In loving memory of LaVerne Hettinga –
Chuck & Susie Johnson

Technology Fund

In loving memory of Richard (Dick) Lind –
Abby Hardinger Noschese, Nadine Oelke, and Verlyn Oelke

In loving memory of Dick Lind –
Don & Kathy Oakland

In loving memory of Dick Lind and my Brother-in-law, Merritt Gleason –
Mary Beth Tolley

In loving memory of Dick Lind –
Randy & Kari Van Natta

In loving memory of Dick Lind –
Eugene & Mary Zoromski



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

St. Stephen Calendar of Events					August 2022	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 10:00 Staff Mtg. 3:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	2 10:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 4:30 Executive Comm. Mtg. 10:30 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	3	4 6:00 Al-Anon	5	6
7 9:00 Worship 12:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 7:00 AA	8 3:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	9 10:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 5:30 Council Mtg. 10:30 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	10	11 6:00 Al-Anon	12	13
14 9:00 Worship 12:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 7:00 AA	15 3:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	16 10:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 10:30 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	17	18 6:00 Al-Anon 6:00 Special Olympics NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	19	20
21 9:00 Worship 12:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 7:00 AA	22 3:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	23 10:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 10:30 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	24	25 6:00 Al-Anon	26	27
28 9:00 Worship 12:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 7:00 AA	29 3:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	30 10:00 Worship Tele. Ch. 980 10:30 Worship Tele. Ch. 980	31			

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