

## Worship Assistants

	<u><i>This Week</i></u>	<u><i>Next Week</i></u>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Kathy Robinson	Sue Holster
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Kathy Robinson/Shalna Robinson	_____
<b>Communion Asst.</b>	Ron & Dawn Felch	Darrin Koehler
<b>Lector</b>	Kathy Robinson	Dick Holster
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Beth Lind	Phil Giese
<b>Preaching/Presiding</b>	Pastor Karoline Schwantes	Pastor Karoline Schwantes
<b>Projection</b>	Shauna Robinson	Shauna Robinson
<b>Special Music</b>	_____	_____
<b>Usher</b>	Darrin Koehler	Lloyd Zimmel
<b>Video</b>	Lydia Lenoble	Lydia Lenoble

### Staff

<b>Pastor</b>	Karoline Schwantes
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>	Nancy Henke
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Mary Beth Tolley
<b>Worship Service Custodian</b>	Dave Skola
<b>Worship Service Custodian</b>	Gail Wolfe
<b>Maintenance Custodian</b>	Cecil Wold

### Music Staff

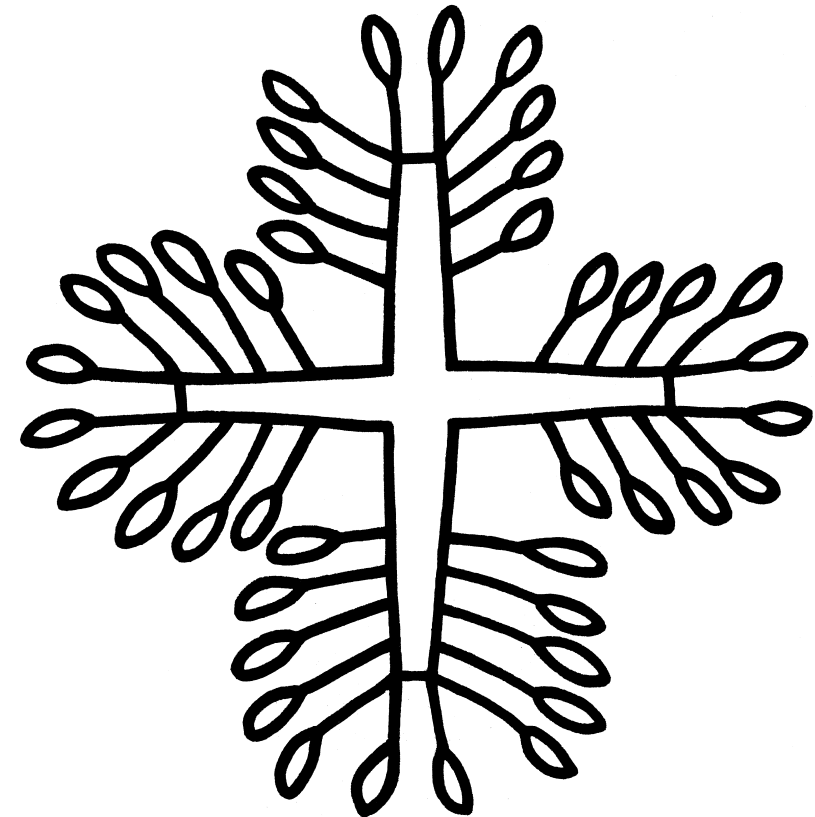
<b>Director of Music</b>	Delores Kessel
<b>Director of Combined Adult Choir</b>	Jim Lenselink
<b>Director of Bell Choir</b>	Darlene Johnson

### Executive Committee

<b>Pastor</b>	Karoline Schwantes: <a href="mailto:prkaroline@sslwausau.com">prkaroline@sslwausau.com</a>
<b>Past President</b>	Kathy Robinson: <a href="mailto:krobinson91063@gmail.com">krobinson91063@gmail.com</a>
<b>Council President</b>	Sue Holster: <a href="mailto:sueholster@gmail.com">sueholster@gmail.com</a>
<b>Council Vice President</b>	Dick Holster: <a href="mailto:Dick@Holsterconstruction.com">Dick@Holsterconstruction.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Verlyn Oelke: <a href="mailto:verlynoelke@gmail.com">verlynoelke@gmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Vicki Romang: <a href="mailto:vicki.romang.sslc@gmail.com">vicki.romang.sslc@gmail.com</a>

**Website:** [www.sslwausau.com](http://www.sslwausau.com)

**Facebook:** Wausau St. Stephen Lutheran Church <https://www.facebook.com/wausausslc>



## St. Stephen Lutheran Church

512 McClellan Street

Wausau, Wisconsin 54403-4882

715-845-7858

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

*Welcome to worship in Jesus's name! We hope that you will hear a word of encouragement during this service which will convey the fullness of God's love for you.*

*Hearing assistance (via our Loop system) is available for those with hearing aids. Head phones are located in the back of the church.*

*At St. Stephen, all are welcome at the Lord's Table! Ushers will lead you forward for communion at the rail. Grape juice is offered in the center ring of the tray at the rail, and gluten free wafers are also available at the rail if you desire that option.*

The Prelude

**RINGING** of the **BELLS**

**THANKSGIVING** for **BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water! **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Please **STAND** for the **HYMN**

Hymn: *Now the Green Blade Rises*

#379

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE/This is the Feast of Victory for Our God**

Hymnal pg. 140

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The congregation is **SEATED**

**FIRST LESSON** (Pew Bible pg. 892)

Acts 8:26-40

**PSALM** (read responsively) (Pew Bible pg. 435)

Psalm 22:25-31

## THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Sunday, April 28th	8:00 am—11:00 am 9:00 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Rummage Sale Worship Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA
Monday, April 29th	3:00 pm 5:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Bell Choir
Tuesday, April 30th	10:00 am 10:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980
Wednesday, May 1st	5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Confirmation Combined Choir Practice
Thursday, May 2nd	8:30 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Quilting Al-Anon Lenten Art Journaling Bible Study
Saturday, May 4th	9:00 am—12:00 pm	Stephen's Angels
Sunday, May 5th	9:00 am 10:15 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Special Congregational Mtg. Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA

# St. Stephen Weekly

*The Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*April 28th, 2024*

**On Sunday, April 21st**, 75 people attended the 9am Worship Service.

**Our sincere sympathy to the family of Michael Meuret**, whose memorial service was held on Saturday, April 27th at Brainard Funeral Home in Weston.

**A Special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 5th** immediately following the worship service to discuss facility improvements and funding. TODAY after worship we will have a Capital Committee discussion on building improvements during the Coffee Hour.

**The May newsletter is available for pick up** on the counter in the reception area for those of you who do not receive it via email.

**Come downstairs after church today and shop the Rummage Sale!** There is an extra discount at the sale today. If anyone would like to help us clean up around 11am, we would welcome any extra hands. Thanks to everyone who helped support our sale. We appreciated all of your donated treasures!

**We have been invited to participate in a Shoe Drive** to raise funds for youth attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Donations of gently worn, used and new shoes will be accepted. We will be collecting shoes from now until May 2, 2024. For more information, please see the bulletin board near the church office, or ask Pastor Karoline or Shauna Robinson. The donation bin will be outside the church office next to the bulletin board! In the US alone, over 600 million pairs of shoes are thrown away per year. The materials used to manufacture a pair of shoes are created from chemical compounds that will create health hazards if left to disintegrate openly or in landfills. By donating your gently worn, used, and new shoes, your shoes are given a second chance to make a difference. All donated shoes will be redistributed to microenterprise partners through Funds2Orgs, a for profit social enterprise, and used in developing nations for impoverished people to start their own businesses.

**The Good Stewards Committee is asking for food donations for the little free pantry** outside of the church. We can use things like canned meat, peanut butter, pasta, hamburger helper, cereal, etc. We just ask that it not be in a glass container or contain carbonation. There are two plastic containers in the chapel area labeled for food donations. If you have any questions feel free to reach out to Shauna Robinson or anyone else on the Good Stewards Committee. Thank you!

**Our 2 co-ed bathrooms are located** in the hallway by the church office.

**If you are interested in hosting Coffee Hour** (or just bringing in treats) there is a sign-up sheet is on the table in the lounge.

*SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 991)*

*1 John 4:7-21*

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand)*

**Hymnal pg. 142**

*GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 878)*

*John 15:1-8*

*SERMON*

*Pastor Karoline Schwantes*

Please **STAND** for the **HYMN** of the **DAY**

Hymn of the Day: *Let All Things Now Living*

**#881**

**APOSTLES' CREED**

We have been made God's people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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**

The Assisting Minister ends each petition with, "God of grace," the congregational response is, "**hear our prayer.**"

**PEACE** is shared

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**VOLUNTARY**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

**#434 (verse 5)**

**Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king;  
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Hymnal pg. 144

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.**

**SANCTUS**

Hymnal pg. 144

**COMMUNION**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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.**

**LAMB OF GOD**

Hymnal pg. 146

Hymn during Communion: *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

#359

(Eucharistic Ministers may come forward for a communion kit at this time.)

**BLESSING**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

Announcement of **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

Please **STAND** for the **HYMN**

Hymn: *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

#367

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace.

Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude

**APRIL 2024 MEMORIALS**

**In loving memory of Jane Stotmeister**

Current Expense Fund -- \$312

Family & Friends

**Building Improvement and Maintenance Fund**

In loving memory of our Mother, Phyliss Ament –  
Lyle & Caroline Ament

In loving memory of our Grandma, Jane Stotmeister –  
Angel Fremming and Hanna Rhyner

In loving memory of my Husband, Roger on his March 4th Birthday Anniversary and my Sister, Lucille Bedish –  
Darleen Fust

In loving memory of Bill Lonsdorf, Lucille Bedish, and Elaine Hoppe –  
Shirley Kasten

In loving memory of Lucille Bedish –  
Mary Beth Tolley

In loving memory of my Nephew, Kevin Prieve and my Parents, Harold Prieve and Loretta Prieve Lodholz –  
Mary Beth Tolley

**Current Expense Fund**

In loving memory of my Sister, Deb Johnson, who passed away on April 25, 2023 –  
Jane Seubert

**Seidel Meyer Pastoral Ministry Fund**

In loving memory of Harold & Sue Kratwell, Kenneth & Sadie Borth, and Norman & Bertha Zietlow –  
Sandy & Ron Borth and Family

**World Hunger**

In honor of my family members –  
Shirley Kasten

These are memorials received through Monday, April 15th. If you would like a memorial placed in the May bulletins and June newsletter, it needs to be to the office by Monday, May 13th. Thank you!