

Worship Assistants

	<u><i>This Week</i></u>	<u><i>Next Week</i></u>
Assisting Minister	Vicki Romang	Mary Beth Tolley
Coffee Hour	Pat Lonsdorf Mary Beth Tolley	_____
Communion Asst.	Verlyn Oelke	Jeanette Wiskow
Lector	Sarah Lonsdorf	Mary Beth Tolley
Organist/Pianist	Roxie Kenitzer	Sharon Hopp
Preaching/Presiding	Pastor Karoline Schwantes	Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Projection	Shauna Robinson	Lydia Lenoble
Special Music	_____	_____
Usher	Lloyd Zimmer	Verlyn Oelke
Video	Lydia Lenoble	Elizabeth Lenoble

Staff

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

Music Staff

Director of Music	Delores Kessel
Director of Combined Adult Choir	Jim Lenselink
Director of Bell Choir	Darlene Johnson

Executive Committee

Pastor	Karoline Schwantes: prkaroline@sslclausau.com
Past President	Sue Holster: sueholster@gmail.com
Council President	Dick Holster: Dick@Holsterconstruction.com
Council Vice President	Vicki Romang: vicki.romang.sslc@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jim Von Rueden: vonbaron7@gmail.com
Secretary	Betsy Utecht: emutecht@gmail.com
Website:	www.sslclausau.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 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025

Welcome to worship in Jesus' 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. Headphones 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

The RINGING of the BELLS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. Amen.

Please STAND for the HYMN

Hymn: Gather Us In #532

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/Glory be to God Hymnal pg. 204

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The congregation is SEATED

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 530) Proverbs 25:6-7a

PSALM (read responsively) (Pew Bible pg. 490) Psalm 112

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 979) Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand) Hymnal pg. 205

GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 849) Luke 14:1, 7-14

SERMON Pastor Karoline Schwantes

A changing table has been installed in the family restroom that is in the hallway closest to the church office.

The First Presbyterian Food Pantry needs empty egg cartons. There is a collection box under the coat rack across from the elevator. Thanks for your help!

The Marty Bus is in need of the following items: rain ponchos, backpacks (not the draw string ones), men's underwear sizes medium thru 4XL, women's underwear sizes 6-9, basic cleaning supplies for those newly housed, and we are starting to collect money to purchase a couple plus size winter coats this year. If interested in contributing, please contact Shauna Robinson at 608-514-4504.

We are in need of volunteers at the WMC Shelter. Please sign up on the bulletin board outside of the office if you are able to help. The current needs of the shelter are: shampoo, conditioner, body was, sanitizer wipes, coffee, creamer, sugar, cases of water, aloe vera, band-aids, medical tape/co-band, instant ice packs, and size small (5/6) women's underwear. If you have any items that you would like to donate, please bring them to church. If you'd prefer to do a monetary donation please make a memo on your check or a note that states it's for WMC supplies. Can you help cook a meal? If you have any questions please contact Shauna Robinson at 608-514-4504.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Sunday, August 31st	9:00 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA
Monday, September 1st Labor Day	3:00 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 NO SCHOOL OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday, September 2nd	10:00 am 5:00 pm 10:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Good Stewards Committee Mtg. Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980
Wednesday, September 3rd	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday, September 4th	8:30 am 6:00 pm	Quilting Al-Anon
Sunday, September 7th	9:00 am 10:15 am 12:00 pm 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Trust Fund Committee Mtg. Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on TDS Channel 14 AA

St. Stephen Weekly

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 31st, 2025

On Sunday, August 24th, 47 people attended the 9am Worship Service.

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

Lutheran World Relief Update: Thank you for all of your donations. We are still in need of lightweight bath towels (20"x40" to 52"x27") and spiral notebooks (70-80 sheet). We will be meeting to assemble kits on Thursday, September 25th at 8:30am. Feel free to come and help. Together we can make a difference in the lives of others.

On Sunday, August 31st a table will be set up in our coffee hour area for Coats for Kids. You can start bringing in items from then until Wednesday, October, 29th. Nancy Prigge will get these items to the Wausau School District for them to distribute to schools/individuals in need. Gently used or new, kids to adult, all sizes are needed. Coats, jackets, sweatpants, snow pants, hooded sweatshirts, hats, gloves, mittens, boots, socks and underwear (must be new in package). Email nancyprigge@yahoo.com or call 715-432-6893 if you have any questions.

GRIEF SHARE—Grief Share is a 13 week DVD-based course designed to support and help move people through the grief process. A new session will be starting on Mondays from 6:30 until 8:30pm in the St. Stephen conference room facilitated by Shirley Ostrem and Lynn Deffner. This session will run from September 8th through December 1st. There is no cost to participate and you are welcome to join at any time during the season. For more information, please contact Shirley Ostrem at 715-359-5531 or email: sjostrem2113@outlook.com or visit www.griefshare.org/groups/265484

The Women of St. Stephen will have a Bible Study on Wednesday, September 10th at 1pm in the Conference Room. All women of the church are welcome to attend!

God's Work Our Hands is going to be Sunday, September 14th at the Marty Bus. We will be providing a meal for those who are less fortunate than us. We are looking for donations of individual bags of chips, wrapped individual sweet treats, cans of baked beans, water flavoring packets, onions, pickles, and buns! We are anticipating a high turn out and whatever is leftover we will be taking to the WMC Shelter for dinner that evening! There will be a sign-up outside the office. If you are able to help that would be greatly appreciated. All items should be to church by Sunday, September 7th, or talk to Shauna Robinson as items that are not donated will need to be picked up the week before the event.

There is a greeting card exchange located in the Library. Please feel free to add cards or take cards whenever it is convenient for you.

Our 2 family restrooms are located in the hallway by the church office.

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

Hymn of the Day: *God Is Here!*

#526

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, "Hear us, O God."
the congregational response is, "**Your mercy is great.**"

PEACE is shared

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

OFFERING/NOISY OFFERING (3rd Sunday of every month)

VOLUNTARY

OFFERTORY HYMN

#885

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Hymnal pg. 206

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.

Hymnal pg. 207

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

Hymnal pg. 208

#838

BLESSING

BENEDICTION

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

#769

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

Capital Campaign

In loving memory of my Mother, Loretta Lodholz and Brother, Patrick Prieve in celebration of their Birthday Anniversaries on August 3rd and August 26th –
Mary Beth Tolley

Current Expenses

Sustainability Trust Fund

In grateful thanks for the blessings we have received in the first 50 years of our marriage –
Verlyn & Kathy Oelke

These are the memorials received through Monday, August 25th. If you would like a memorial placed in the September bulletins and October newsletter, it needs to be to the office by Monday, September 15th. Thank you!