

Worship Assistants

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Assisting Minister	Sue Holster	Vicki Romang
Coffee Hour	Stephen's Angels	Scott & Vicki Romang
Communion Asst.	Gail Wolfe	Lloyd Zimmer
Lector	Dick Holster	Verlyn Oelke
Organist/Pianist	Beth Lind	Delores Kessel
Preaching/Presiding	Pastor Karoline Schwantes	Pastor Karoline Schwantes
Projection	Lydia Lenoble	Shauna Robinson
Special Music	_____	Vocal Choir
Usher	Darrin Koehler	Lloyd Zimmer
Video	Elizabeth Lenoble	Lydia 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@sslclwausau.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.sslclwausau.com
Facebook:	Wausau St. Stephen Lutheran Church https://www.facebook.com/wausausslc



St. Stephen Lutheran Church
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Wausau, Wisconsin 54403-4882
715-845-7858

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 14, 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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God, **we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

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

Hymn: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* **#631**

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 **Hymnal pg. 149**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*The congregation is **SEATED***

FIRST LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 69) *Exodus 32:7-14*

PSALM (read responsively) (Pew Bible pg. 452) *Psalms 51:1-10*

SECOND LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 963) *1 Timothy 1:12-17*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand) **Hymnal pg. 151**

GOSPEL LESSON (Pew Bible pg. 850) *Luke 15:1-10*

SERMON *Pastor Karoline Schwantes*

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

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

The 3rd Sunday of every month we will have a NOISY OFFERING. Please bring in your coins and let's make some noise! The offering will go towards the Community Outreach Fund.

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. If you have any questions please contact Shauna Robinson.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN CHURCH

Sunday, September 14th God's Work Our Hands	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 15th	3:00 pm 5:15 pm 6:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Bell Choir Grief Share Property Committee Mtg. Dartball MEMORIAL DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER
Tuesday, September 16th	10:00 am 10:30 pm	Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980 Worship Telecast on Spectrum Channel 980
Wednesday, September 17th	6:30 pm	Choir Practice
Thursday, September 18th	8:30 am 6:00 pm 6:00 pm	Quilting Al-Anon Special Olympics NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Saturday, September 20th	3:00 pm—10:00 pm	Candlelight Concert
Sunday, September 21st	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 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 14th, 2025

On Sunday, September 7th, 49 people attended the 9am Worship Service.

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 21st immediately following worship. Your input is important! The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and vote on a resolution allowing for continued conversation between Pilgrim and St. Stephen regarding a merger of the two congregations. A quorum is needed, so please plan to attend.

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. The LWR Ingathering will take place on Saturday, October 4th from 8am until noon. We are looking for volunteers to help with packing. Please save the date for helping this great cause. Questions? Contact Verlyn Oelke at 715 551-0546.

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 Good Stewards Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 7th to discuss God's Work Our Hands as well as plan for the Community Dinner on October 19th.

St. Stephen will be hosting a Community Dinner on Sunday, October 19th. Please watch your bulletins and newsletter for more information.

A table has been set up in our coffee hour area for Coats for Kids. You can bring in items 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.

We are looking for volunteers to help count the weekly offerings and deposit it into our account at Marathon Savings Bank. This typically takes about an hour per week and we are looking to create 4 teams of 3-4 people, so you would serve once per month. We discontinued this during COVID but would like to restart these teams as a good practice moving forward.

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

Hymn of the Day: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

#779

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, "receive our prayer."

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

#686 (verse 1 only)

OFFERING PRAYER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Hymnal pg. 152

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. 153

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. 154

Hymn during Communion: *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

#608

(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: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

#733

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

The Postlude

SEPTEMBER 2025 MEMORIALS

Capital Campaign

In loving memory of my Mother, Shirley Gleason on her September 19th Birthday Anniversary and my Brother, Brian Gleason on his September 26th Birthday Anniversary –
Deb Gleason

In loving memory of my Sister, Shirley Gleason on her September 19th Birthday Anniversary
and my Nephew, Brian Gleason on his September 26th Birthday Anniversary –
Mary Beth Tolley

In loving memory of my Brother, Pat Prieve who passed away on September 25, 2016 and my Nephew, Kevin Prieve, whose Birthday Anniversary is September 30th –
Mary Beth Tolley

Current Expenses

In loving memory of my Husband, Jerry and my Brothers, Denny, Ricky, and Ronny –
Kay Preller

Sustainability Trust Fund

In loving memory of Roger Fust who passed away on September 16, 2011 –
Darleen Fust

These are the memorials received through Monday, September 8th. If you would like a memorial placed in the September bulletins and October newsletter, it needs to be to the office by Monday, September 22nd. Thank you!