



ST. STEPHEN THIS WEEK

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Newsletter

QUICK QUIZ

Can you name each of these St. Stephen members? Do you know why they were all standing together, facing the congregation, two Sundays ago? From left, we have Audrey Post, Sylvia Smith, Graham Reece, Susan Hehn, Jen Dritt, Sharon Simmons, Sandy Lamb-Daniels, Lawana Lamb-Daniels and Denise Bookwalter. They're all Church Council members. (Rob Schiffer is not pictured here.)



A newly elected member was being installed, so Pastor Tom thought it was a good opportunity to officially install or reinstall every Council member – and give the congregation a good look at the Council as a whole. Everyone present promised to “support these Council members and pray for them in their ministries at St. Stephen.” And just what are their ministries? We'll be reminding you of that in upcoming newsletters, as we reacquaint you with your Council reps. *(Photo by Colin Hackley)*

SOUPER SOUP SUPPER FOR SAFETY SEATS

By Dottie Hinkle, executive director, Lutheran Social Services of North Florida (aka KidSafe)

The magic word at KidSafe this month is SOUP! We are having our Super Soup Supper for Safety Seats event on Oct. 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Grace Lutheran Church. Everyone, especially everyone from St. Stephen, is invited to join us for an evening of delicious soup, bread and dessert. Suggested donation is \$20, and all proceeds will benefit our mission of providing new child safety seats to infants and children living in vulnerable families in Leon and Gadsden counties. Lawana Lamb-Daniels, our newest board member, will be promoting the event with information and some promotional items for sale during the next few weeks. (Such as those soup bowls you saw in last week's newsletter.)



Everyone can help make this fundraiser a success:

- Sign up to donate a favorite soup or dessert to serve on Oct. 9.
- Buy one of our Friendship Soup Jars (\$15) in advance of the event (see Lawana).
- BUT, MOST OF ALL, JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP AND SUPPORT OF THE KIDSAFE PROGRAM.

THIS IS ONE WAY TO GET YOUR KIDS TO READ THE CHURCH NEWSLETTER

By Rudy Hehn

Susan and I saw this amazing yellow garden spider eat her lunch in our front yard. It's a silk-wrapped bee. If you need something different for the newsletter, we thought this would be interesting. *[Editor's note: You thought right.]*

The zigzag structure on her web is a stabilimentum. Its purpose is disputed. Some think it serves to warn birds, so they don't rip through the web. Others think it attracts food or a mate. Or in the case of male spiders, they are often both mate and food.

I'm glad I am not a yellow garden spider. I'd have to consider becoming a monk and taking a vow of celibacy.



BEING LOST: EXCERPT FROM PASTOR TOM’S SERMON

We heard a woman speak last week at the Prayer Vigil held in response to the notorious Alligator Alcatraz and the unjust “round-up” of human beings. People who are being incarcerated without due process, often by masked individuals in unmarked vehicles. This woman’s husband was arrested in the raid at the construction site near FSU three and a half months ago and sent to a facility in Texas. She has not been able to contact him since. She doesn’t know where he is, she’s left with their three children who weep for their father, and she weeps for her husband. There will be joy when they’re reunited. It’s a joy we should all hope for, participate in, and celebrate when it happens.

What does “lostness” look like to you? Separation, estrangement, hopelessness? Hold fast to know that God searches for you and scoops you up. For we need God to find us. And we rejoice, for God lets no one remain lost forever.

BEFORE YOU GO...

- Yoga has expanded beyond just chair yoga, Audrey said during announcements Sunday. So bring a mat, if you like, to St. Stephen yoga time at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the sanctuary. “It’s 5 bucks a head, best deal in town,” Audrey says.
- There’s a cleanup from 10 a.m. to noon at San Luis Park, sponsored by FSU’s Ecology and Evolution Research Discussion Group. They’ll have buckets, gloves, everything you need, says Simone Schuster.
- Thanks to Lawana for organizing the vaccine clinic last Sunday.
- There’s another Interfaith Vigil for Immigration Justice scheduled for this Sunday at 5 p.m. at the Old Capitol. It’s being conducted in solidarity with the vigils at the Everglades Detention Center. As last week’s poster stated: “Leaders of faith and consciousness from around Florida are holding weekly faith vigils from 5-6 p.m. to stand together in prayer and witness against inhumane and unconstitutional treatment of our neighbors. Everyone is welcome at this peaceful gathering.”
- Need the contact information for a St. Stephen member? Use your handy digital directory. Don’t have it on your phone? Office Manager Rita Ford can fix you up.
- Please remember that you can look up past sermons or newsletters that you missed. Visit our website: <https://ststephenlutherantally.com/>.
- If you have an anniversary, birthday, special memory or special St. Stephen person or program you’d like to honor, celebrate by sponsoring the altar flowers for our service. Sign up on the flower chart, out by the name tags, or ask Rita to sign you up. Include the \$40 with your regular offering. And then take the flowers home!



SERVING THIS WEEK

Pastor Tom, Preaching and Presiding; **Kirsten Ebbesen**, Assisting Minister; **Susan Warren**, Cup Minister; **Colleen Holdcraft**, Lector; **Loraine Sundberg** and **Audrey Post**, Tech Team; **Beth Alexander**, Altar Guild; **Janet Barber** and **Susan Warren**, Counters; **Susan Hehn**, Cantor; **Denise Bookwalter**, Announcements

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

- Ceilia Greeley - 09/23
- Violet Greeley - 09/23
- Kirsten Matthis - 09/23
- Laura Kimel - 09/28
- Sue Williams - 09/28
- Jeanette Sickel - 09/30



COMING UP

Today:

Noon - Al-Anon meets in Pastor Emory Hingst Memorial Fellowship Hall, aka Hingst Hall (HH)

7 p.m. - AA meets in HH

This Friday:

9:30 a.m. - TOPS meets in HH

This Sunday:

9 a.m. - Bible study

9:30 a.m. - Choir practice

10 a.m. - Worship: Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

11:30 a.m. Council meeting

Monday, September 22:

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in HH

Tuesday, September 23:

5 p.m. - NA meets in HH

Wednesday, September 24

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in HH

7 p.m. - Choir



If you have news or photos to share,
please send them to Rita at
sslc@ststephenlutherantally.com.

Don't forget our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/ststephentallahassee>.

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, ELCA