

January 9, 2025



ST. STEPHEN THIS WEEK

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Newsletter



MOVING TOGETHER TOWARD HEALING AND HOPE: ELCA'S National Day of Racial Healing

As we honor the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the communities that formed him, our church has a powerful opportunity to put our faith into action. In a special partnership between the ELCA and Augsburg Fortress Publishers, we invite you to gather virtually with Lutheran communities across the nation on Tuesday, January 21, from 11 AM to 3 PM, for a transformative journey of worship, learning, and growth.

This spirit-filled gathering brings together some of the most gifted and prophetic voices in our church. The day opens with inspiring worship led by renowned preacher the Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis and features beautiful music by Ali Paris.

Use this link to get more information:

[https://edlarj.us17.list-manage.com/track/click?
u=8e83f5fa2e52ea8b48cba428b&id=494d9c7f44&e=1de3b16659](https://edlarj.us17.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8e83f5fa2e52ea8b48cba428b&id=494d9c7f44&e=1de3b16659)

MANY THANKS

To St. Stephen, from Pastor Tom:

"Thank you St. Stephen! Your generosity at Christmas was received and appreciated. Colleen and I are so thankful to be called to serve at St. Stephen and were touched by the meaningful notes, gifts, and bonus check. Your kindness means so much."

And from Katharine Gossman, our music director and organist/pianist:

"Thank you, St. Stephen family, for your generous Christmas gift. I am extremely grateful for the kindness and wish each one of you a very happy new year!"

And from Lori Zengel, our office manager:

Thank you for the very generous Christmas gift and cards. I am truly amazed at the generosity and love shown, and not just during the Holidays. Happy New Year!



ANNUAL TALENT SHOW

Ash Wednesday is March 5. That means our St. Stephen Annual Talent Show is slated for March 2 this year. We hope you are already at work planning on a way to share your talent! Sadly, Ron has asked to not coordinate and host this years' event. He hopes to be back at the helm next year, however. That means we are in need of a coordinator for this years' show. Nothing special is required except being the contact for the "talent," putting the performer's program slots in order, and bossing people around, in general! Pastor Tom has agreed to be the "stand in" mc to save all of us from seeing him dance again, this year!

BEFORE YOU GO...

- Please mark your calendar for February 2. After church we will hold our Congregation meeting to approve our 2025 financial budget, vote for new Council members, and discuss future ministry opportunities. The meeting will begin in the fellowship hall shortly after worship ends. Hope to see everyone there!
- This Saturday at 10 a.m., join Pastor Tom to help clean-up the sanctuary from our Christmas decor.
- If you sponsored a poinsettia, you may pick it up this Sunday.
- 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 nametags, or ask Lori to sign you up. Include the \$40 with your regular offering. And then take the flowers home!



UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Mary Andersen - 01/11
 Mason Bonfanti - 01/11
 Sharon Girvin - 01/11
 Erin Kenney - 01/11
 Mark Canning - 01/13
 Nathan Basford - 01/19
 Myrna Dowdell - 01/21
 Stephen Barton - 01/22
 Denise Bookwalter - 01/22
 Ann Hingst - 01/22
 James Gunderson - 01/24
 Sandy Ness - 01/24
 Gladys Kane - 01/28
 Jennifer Buchanan - 01/29
 Graham Hackley - 01/30
 Jayden Schiffer - 01/31



COMING UP

Today:

Noon - Al-Anon meets in fellowship hall (FH)

7 p.m. - AA meets in FH

This Friday:

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

This Saturday:

1:30 p.m. - Al-Anon District meeting in FH

This Sunday:

9 a.m. - Book study

10 a.m. - Worship, Baptism of Our Lord Sunday

4 p.m. - Congolese Christian worship in FH

Monday, January 13:

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in FH

7 p.m. - TIMA meets in FH

Tuesday, January 14:

5 p.m. - NA meets in FH

Wednesday, January 15:

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in FH



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

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

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The Rev. Tom Holdcraft, Pastor

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