



ST. STEPHEN THIS WEEK

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Newsletter



'HE IS RISEN INDEED!'

By Pastor Tom

It was a fantastic Easter with St. Stephen family ... some we hadn't seen in a while, and many new faces! I was impressed with the number of kids and teenagers. The Care and Hospitality Committee did a terrific job recruiting older children to hide eggs for the younger ones, and Margaret Bowers was an amazing planner, having extra eggs ready for the late-arriving children. Mark Greeley, Patrick Kennell and Denise Bookwalter also helped hide eggs. No child was left without a basket of treats to collect! Carol Santos decorated Hingst Hall beautifully, and the food was delicious and plentiful.

*Photos on
this page by
Karl Barton*

Margaret and Rita Ford were both terrific about including all children. Many thanks to everyone who helped pull off this joyous celebration – Altar Guild members, ushers, worship assistants, musicians (including violinist Astrid van der Mark) and so many others. [Margaret salutes her “new hospitality crew” of Jennifer Slusarz, Monty Mortensen and Greta Scavone.] God bless you all!



Photo of Colleen Holdcraft and little Ellie Bonfanti by Susan Hehn



Photo of five kids by Karl Barton

Photo of Warrens and grandson Jack by Greta Scavone



Photo of Buchanans by Jim Sampson

IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING...

In the procession to the altar that opened Sunday's worship service, there was one piece of liturgical equipment that was not at all routine. As Pastor Tom explains, that piece was created years ago by Don Dowd, a longtime St. Stephen member and leader of our worship and music ministry. A few years before he died, Don made that piece as a symbol of resurrection joy, with its circles, bells and flowing ribbons.

Don's lifelong partner and caregiver, Nathan Basford, adds this: "Don spent many hours designing and assembling the banners/streamers. He was so excited to make them and see them completed for St. Stephen. On those High Sundays, I enjoyed seeing them come down the aisle, for the Glory of God. Thank you, St. Stephen family, for all the love and support you continue to give me and for honoring Don's memory."



AT ST. STEPHEN, EGGS WON'T HURT YOU

Here's the top of a story from Wednesday's Tallahassee Democrat. This isn't the kind of publicity that any church is eager to get.



The Internet is buzzing after a video from a massive Easter egg drop at a Tallahassee church shows a woman whisking a child away just seconds before thousands of treat-filled eggs fall on top of her.

The video, which went viral overnight, shows hundreds of young children and their parents circled around an open field at Immanuel Baptist Church waiting for a man dressed in an Easter bunny costume to be hoisted hundreds of feet into the air by a crane to release a huge load of plastic Easter eggs.

People can be heard chattering and cheering in anticipation of the drop, and the woman filming the viral moment screams as the

woman and child make their near escape. They just barely got out of harm's way, managing to only get pelted by a few eggs.

FINALLY, IT'S RETREAT TIME!

By Caroline Collins

Our highly anticipated "Waiting for Eden" spiritual retreat is finally upon us! Registrants, look for an email sent from the office Tuesday with helpful last-minute details. If you don't see it, email pinkandgreen850@gmail.com and ask for it to be forwarded. See you Saturday at the Goodwood Carriage House!



THE SPICES OF LIFE

This note is from Adrian Fogelin, a friend of St. Stephen who helps tend the Seminole Manor pantry in southwest Tallahassee. Many of you have donated food, labor, money and prayers in support of the pantry. Most recently, you donated ... spices! Says Adrian: "Please thank everyone for the abundance of herbs and spices. The idea was Sharon Simmons', the box delivered by Karen. It had never crossed my mind that, for people on a tight budget, herbs and spices would be a luxury. They are disappearing as quickly as we are putting them in the box! Thanks for spicing things up, and for all the help the St. Stephen family has given us over the years...."



'JESUS LIVES': EXCERPT FROM PASTOR TOM'S EASTER SERMON

[T]he women make haste to depart after viewing the empty tomb. There's still lingering danger, but there's something else more important. There's renewed determination to share the news that Jesus Lives....

On their way to deliver the message of life and mercy, the women encounter Jesus.... Jesus greets them, affirms the message from the angel, to tell the others to go to Galilee; "there they will see me." Galilee was where Jesus' ministry began and where the Matthew account concludes. Galilee was a region within Israel that was controlled by the Romans and ruled by Herod Antipas. It had bustling urban centers and small villages holding both Jewish and Gentile people. It's no small thing that Jesus told them to go there to see him.

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, Preaching; **Pastor Tom Holdcraft**, Presiding; **Kirsten Ebbesen**, Assisting Minister; **Colleen Holdcraft**, Cup Minister; **Erik Robinson**, Lector; **Colin Hackley and Mark Greeley**, Tech Team; **Anita Sawh and Rita Ford**, Altar Guild; **Billie Reardon and Loraine Sundberg**, Counters; **Rudy Hehn**, Cantor; **Ann DelRossi and Jacob Nallapu**, Ushers; **Denise Bookwalter**, Announcements

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:

9:00 a.m. - Bible study

9:30 a.m. - Choir rehearsal

10 a.m. - Worship, Second Sunday of Easter

Monday, April 13:

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in HH

Tuesday, April 14:

5 p.m. - NA meets in HH

Wednesday, April 15:

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in HH

7 p.m. - Choir rehearsal

Thursday, April 16:

10 a.m. - Bible study



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