



ST. STEPHEN THIS WEEK

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Newsletter

NOW, THE FAREWELL POTLUCK

Last Sunday, we were all set to celebrate dear Lori Zengel’s 13 years of service and ministry at St. Stephen as our office manager – but illness got in the way. But we’re back on schedule now. This Sunday, right after the morning liturgy, we’ll say our goodbyes to Lori. Please bring a potluck dish to share, with cards and gifts to present, in our appreciation for Lori’s work and friendship. A love offering will be given at the potluck from those who made donations through the church collection. As we’ve said so many times in the past few weeks: Godspeed, Lori!



MEETING JESUS

By Pastor Tom



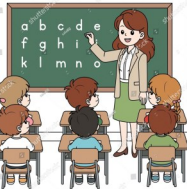
Join us in the Matthew Room as we begin the study of the Gospel of Mark this Sunday or any following Sunday. Our 9 a.m. class will be using Marcus Borg’s commentary, “Meeting Jesus in Mark,” to guide our exploration with discussion questions. But you don’t need to buy the Borg text to participate. Just bring your Bible, and we’ll have coffee with occasional breakfast treats!



BLESS OUR TEACHERS

By Pastor Tom

We collected \$650 in the Noisy Offering for the teachers of St. Stephen! Our four hard-working teachers – Colleen Holdcraft, Andrea Notley, Jen Reece and Donna Schiffer – won’t need to spend from their income to supply their classrooms. Thank you for your dedication to our community’s children, teachers!



‘WHERE DID THE TIME GO?’

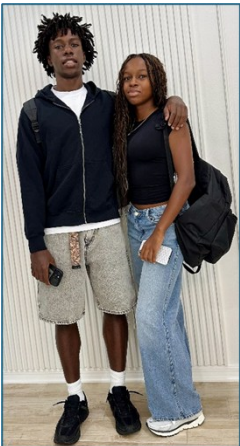
Former member Eunice Muchuruza sent this to Ruth

It’s the first day back to school. Where are your little ones that you stood by during their baptism ceremony in 2008 and 2009?

I can’t believe that I have a high school senior and a junior. It’s Vince’s last year of high school — wow, where did the time go? He is driving (Victor’s old car, 2016 Corolla) and works at Publix part time.

Enjoy the pictures I took this morning. Please know Victor and I don’t approve of Vince’s hairstyle. It’s a teenager phase ... hope it ends soon.

Wishing all the teachers and students a wonderful school year.



MANNA OPPORTUNITIES

Forwarded by Caroline Collins

Friday, Aug. 15: Produce packing and meat wrapping, 10 a.m.- noon (or sooner).

Saturday, Aug. 16: Distribution Day

--6:30 a.m.: Set up regular distribution

--7:30-8:30 a.m.: Set up choice distribution

--8:30-9:30 a.m.: Bagging of dry goods

--7:30-9:30 a.m.: Various jobs...

- Boxes separated for Foster Kitten People and Native Nurseries
- Waxed boxes broken down for trash
- Cardboard boxes broken down for recycling
- Double brown bags made
- Plastic bags separated
- Supplies "banded": toothbrushes/toothpastes, ramen noodles



Items we're stocking up on for the fall:

--Canned black beans (we hear black beans are 10/\$10 for Publix shoppers, and Sam's Club has them in 8-packs for \$1 a can)

--Hunt's (24-ounce can) pasta sauce – usually hidden on top or bottom shelf

--Cereal

--12.5-ounce cans of chicken

Manna is always grateful for your 3 T's: Time, Talent, Treasure

'WE ARE NOT IN CONTROL': EXCERPT FROM PASTOR TOM'S LATEST SERMON

The kingdom of God journey we are on makes commitments to one another, commitments to love and be vulnerable. To show up. It sets us up to be hurt. That cannot be excluded.

The only way to avoid being hurt is to retreat entirely from others. If you and I care for no one but ourselves, we might avoid some hurt and heartbreak – but it's a path away from God, a journey to hell. And inevitably a life full of hurt and heartache.

Thankfully we are not in control, nor are we controlling. We have a community at St. Stephen that's imperfect, yet resilient. Worried about tomorrow, yet generous today. We ready ourselves and encourage one another to be prepared for this Jesus who will keep breaking into our lives and make all things new.

BEFORE YOU GO...



- Tonight's the night when Tom Buchanan and his fellow musicians will present the Thursday Night Music Club's fantastic Annual Jazz Showcase at Ruby Diamond Concert Hall. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7). The cost is only \$17. Get your tickets at

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thursdaynightmusicclub/1765189>.

- If you don't already have St. Stephen's digital directory, check with Rita in the church office. It comes in mighty handy.
- 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 Lori to sign you up. Include the \$40 with your regular offering. And then take the flowers home!





UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Caroline Collins - 08/14 (That's Today!)
Marilyn Larson - 08/22
Greta Scavone - 08/23
Jerry Harrison - 08/24
Andrea Notley - 08/26
Susan Warren - 08/26
Melissa Barton - 08/27

SERVING THIS WEEK

Pastor Tom, Preaching and Presiding; **Audrey Post**, Assisting Minister; **Susan Warren**, Cup Minister; **Ceilia Greeley**, Lector; **Caroline Collins and Mark Greeley**, Tech Team; **Rita Ford and Susan Warren**, Altar Guild; **Billie Reardon and Loraine Sundberg**, Counters; **Cassandra White**, Cantor; **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:

10 a.m. - TOPS meets in HH

This Saturday:

9 a.m. - Al-Anon District meets in HH

10 a.m. - Sew for Hope meets in HH



This Sunday:

9 a.m. - Book study

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

11:30 a.m. - Lori's reception with Potluck

Monday, August 18:

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in HH

Tuesday, August 19:

5 p.m. - NA meets in HH

5:30 p.m. - Chair yoga in sanctuary

Wednesday, August 20:

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in HH



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
2198 N. Meridian Road | Tallahassee, FL 32303
The Rev. Tom Holdcraft, Pastor