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Church Office Hours
By Appointment

Address Service Requested



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



*“Peace if possible,
truth at all costs.”*

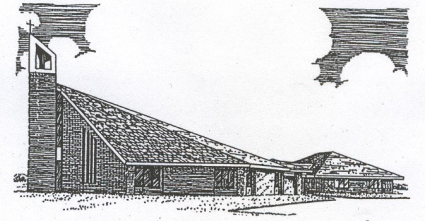
—Martin Luther



SEPTEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 •12:30 pm 2nd Harvest •7 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	2 •12 pm 12@12	3 •9 am Sr. Coffee in Parking Lot •10 am Worship on Studio1 •5:30 pm Women's Recovery	4 •6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous •7 pm Worship on Studio1	5
6 •10:30 am Drive-in Worship	7 •6:00 Just-for-Kix •6:30 pm W.O.W. •7 pm Alanon •8 pm Monday Night Fellowship at Brau Brothers	8 •4:30 Just-for-Kix •7 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	9 •12 pm 12@12 •6:30 pm 6th Grade Confirmation Parent Meeting	10 •9 am Sr. Coffee in Parking Lot •10 am Worship on Studio1 •3:30 Just-for-Kix •5:30 pm Women's Recovery	11 •6:30 am FCA Mother/Daughter Bible Study •6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous •7 pm Worship on Studio1	12 •2 pm Wellnitz/Pershing baby Shower
13 •8:30 am Worship •9:30 am Worship •10:30 am Worship	14 •6:00 Just-for-Kix •7 pm Alanon •8 pm Monday Night Fellowship at Brau Brothers	15 •4:30 Just-for-Kix •7 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	16 •12 pm 12@12	17 •9 am Sr. Coffee in Parking Lot •10 am Worship on Studio1 •5:30 pm Women's Recovery •6 pm Just-for-Kix	18 •6:30 am FCA Mother/Daughter Bible Study •6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous •7 pm Worship on Studio1	19
20 •8:30 am Worship •9:30 am Worship •10:30 am Worship	21 •6:00 Just-for-Kix •7 pm Alanon •8 pm Monday Night Fellowship at Brau Brothers	22 •4:30 Just-for-Kix •7 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	23 •12 pm 12@12 •5:30 pm Confirmation	24 •9 am Sr. Coffee in Parking Lot •10 am Worship on Studio1 •5:30 pm Women's Recovery	25 •6:30 am FCA Mother/Daughter Bible Study •56 pm Alcoholics Anonymous •7 pm Worship on Studio1	26
27 •8:30 am Worship •9:30 am Worship •10:30 am Worship	28 •6:00 Just-for-Kix •7 pm Alanon •8 pm Monday Night Fellowship at Brau Brothers	29 •4:30 Just-for-Kix •7 pm Adult Children of Alcoholics	30 •12 pm 12@12 •5:30 pm Confirmation			

September 2020



From the Pastor's Desk...

"And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."
Romans 5:3-5



So recently we were camping near Blue Mound State Park. And we went out on an adventure to a National Grassland site. On the way we encountered this sign. I've got a pickup and I'm not too afraid of very much. But a sign like this proclaiming a rough road ahead, well, that causes one to think twice. The sign was actually a little bit false. The road wasn't all that rough. But perhaps because I've been on rougher in the past. I'd grown past what might be difficult.

I think all of can agree that 2020 has been a rough road. The world has been upside down.

I sent this passage from Paul's letter to the Romans to a few folks this month. "Rough Roads" whether we like to admit it or not, can actually help us grow. And everything about 2020 has helped us grow. I've noticed these things...

(continued on next page)

Staff

- Rev. Lyle Snyder, Pastor
- Seth Boerboom, Parish Associate
- Lauren Winn, Financial Assistant
- Judy DeCramer, Organist
- Gunvar Dombek, Organist
- Mary Hauschild, Organist
- Seth Boerboom, Pianist
- Judy Hoeft, Pianist
- Melinda Grohs, Preschool Director
- Lisa Rosenboom, Assistant Teacher
- Melissa Doose, Assistant Teacher

Congregation Council

- Daren Kesteloot, President (term ends Jan. 2021)
- Jasmine Steffen, Vice President (term ends Jan. 2021)
- Josh Allerson, Treasurer (term ends Jan. 2022)
- Paula Petersen-Giles, Secretary (term ends Jan. 2021)
- Jennifer Marty (term ends Jan. 2022)
- Bill Cowden (term ends Jan. 2022)
- Abby Dubs (term ends Jan. 2021)
- Carlton Johnson (term ends Jan. 2022)

- Families started eating together and their schedules have been less hectic.
- People started re-evaluating things like jobs (how and where do I work best?) and resources (do we really need this?).
- Families have rethought the meaning of education.
- People started getting in touch with who they are as individuals and as part of the community.
- People have started prioritizing about what is important in their life.
- People have taken great interest in their church and in their faith lives.

about from my sermons for the past 10 years. Covid-19 has been a far better preacher than I am. And that ain't so bad.

So, yeah, it's been a rough road. 10 years we might look back and go... It was rough, but we made it through. And we do so with Christ's help.

In Christ



+Pastor Lyle Snyder

It's like the pandemic has helped bring about some things I've been trying to bring

Stories of Covid-19 at St. Stephen Lutheran Church

We've had a few members of St. Stephen Lutheran Church test positive for Covid-19. I asked them if they'd write about their experience. I asked them to do so anonymously. There are very few stories about the virus shared in a public way. I think sharing stories

is always good. Always, to the light! So in this newsletter, as well as the next few newsletters, we'll be having some St. Stephen Covid-19 stories.

Please keep in mind these are not stories of exposure at St. Stephen Lutheran Church. If there were an ex-

posure at worship or a different activity, we would have informed the impacted people of the exposure. These are just stories - stories that need to be heard.

+Pastor Lyle

My Experience with Covid By Anonymous

On July 3rd while at work, I started to experience fatigue and body aches. This came on very quickly so I headed home and went to bed. I slept for a couple of hours then made my way to the

couch for the rest of the evening. The following day was much of the same, body aches, coughing and extreme fatigue and no appetite. I called to get tested but just missed the deadline for the

day so I went the following day. Testing took place in the back parking lot of Avera. You have to drive up to the shack and someone comes out to shove a swab up your nose. They say it

will tickle a bit but that was no tickle but it was quick! I was told if positive I would hear in a day or two. If negative, I would receive a letter with that information. Well I got the confirmation the same day, Positive. I was told to quarantine for 10 days from the start of the symptoms. No contact with anyone. My son who lives upstairs also tested positive a week earlier so we had to avoid each other.

Since I had to remain inside for so long, I had quite a long list of things I was going to complete around the house but not one of them got accomplished. My days consisted of moving from the bed to the couch and back to the bed. Multiple naps during the day and a lot of Netflix viewing.

My first food delivery was on July 5th. My girlfriend went shopping for me and dropped off my order on the front step. I felt so isolated. Later in the week I used Aisles Online at Hy-Vee. I would pull up and they would load up the groceries in the back of the pickup. In one of the orders, I had a steak and twice baked potatoes which turned out to be a waste of money since I had lost my taste and smell.

The scariest part of this was sleeping at night. I have sleep apnea so I have a breathing machine which wasn't providing me with enough oxygen since I was so short of breath so I slept without it but woke up multiple times during the night grasping for air because I kept stop breathing. Of all the issues I was experiencing, this was the biggest con-

cern.

The other biggest issue was the coughing. I had coughed so much my ribs hurt so badly. This went on for quite a few weeks which made things very uncomfortable. Overall, the symptoms were not unbearable but the length of time I had experienced these was the biggest difference of having just your basic flu.

After two weeks there was not a concern of spreading this so I attempted to go back to golf league but the extreme fatigue forced me to quit after 9 holes so back home for a 4 hour nap. Even after a month, I still had the fatigue. Even today, I still don't feel 100% but am fortunate I did not need hospitalization. This was my experience with Covid 19!

Worship Back in the Sanctuary on September 13th

At its August 18th meeting, the St. Stephen Lutheran Church Council voted to move our worship back indoors to the sanctuary beginning on September 13th:

- Three services at 8:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. (further spreading people out).

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Worship Back in the Sanctuary on September 13th (continued)

- Strongly encouraging the elderly or those with vulnerable health to attend at 8:30 a.m., as the least amount of people will likely attend 8:30 a.m.
- We ask that those medically not able to wear a mask, refrain from attending the 8:30 a.m. service.
- Our pews will be labeled for 8:30, 9:30, or 10:30 worship times, limiting our capacity to 1/3 of the sanctuary and eliminating the need to clean immediately after use. Overflow seating will be available in the Fellowship Hall.
- We encourage everyone to follow the mask mandate in accordance with state law.
- We encourage everyone to offer grace and understanding to those not wearing masks.
- We will not have communion during this time.
- We will not have coffee or fellowship during this time.
- Sunday School will be at home lessons until Church Council re-evaluates in October.

St. Stephen Happenings!



*David Noyes & Payton Boerboom
were married on August 1st.*



Cal Sleiter & Cassie Mages were married at St. Stephen Lutheran on August 8th.



Miles John Miller, son of Blair & Laura Miller, was baptized on August 15th.



Kroix Leroy Bitker, son of Nick & Heidi Bitker. Was baptized on August 16th.

St. Stephen Happenings (continued)!



Vidalia Amundson, the daughter of Lucas & Shania Amundson was baptized on Saturday, August 22nd.



On Sunday August 30th, Holland Andree, the daughter of Mark and Melissa Andree was baptized.



On Sunday August 30th, Everett Sowden, the son of Cody and Alex Sowden was baptized.

AUTHORIZATION FORM



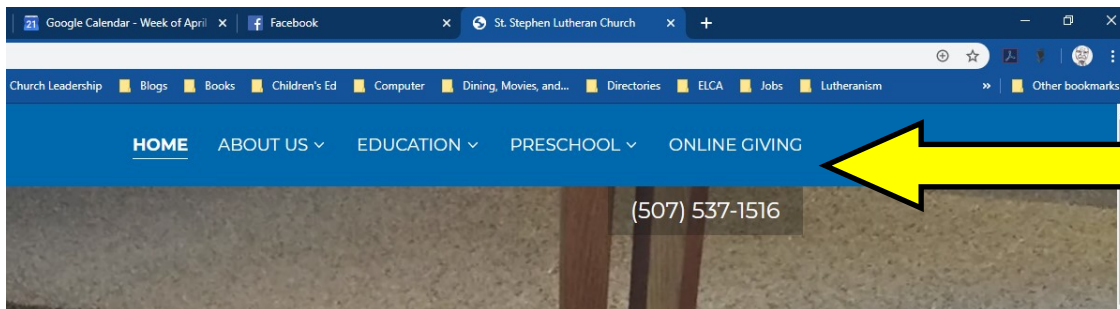
The **Simply Giving** Program
endorsed by
 Thrivent Federal Credit Union

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE
Effective date of authorization: ____/____/____ Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation		
Last Name	First Name	
Address		
City	State	Zip
Email Address		
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____/____/____	FREQUENCY OF DONATION: <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly – Mondays <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th	FUNDS: <input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
		AMOUNTS: \$ _____ \$ _____ Total \$ _____
CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit my donation from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below)	Routing Number: _____ Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3 Account Number: _____
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization. Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____	

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check at the bottom of this page.

Ways to Begin Online Regular Giving!

- 1) On the St. Stephen Website - go to www.ststephenmarshall.org. Click on "online giving" then "create profile" and follow the instructions.



To begin regular giving, click here on our website!

2) Consult with your bank about “Online Bill Pay.” Many banks can send a regular check directly to the church.

3) Complete the form on the previous page and mail it to the church!

Financials Through July 2020

July	Actual	Budget	B/(W) Budget
Giving/Income	24,160.81	27,626.00	(3,465.19)
Expenses	22,274.51	27,001.50	4,726.99
Net Income	1,886.30	624.50	1,261.80
July YTD	Actual	Budget	B/(W) Budget
Giving/Income	203,114.45	193,082.00	10,032.45
Expenses	163,833.12	188,949.50	25,116.38
Net Income	39,281.33	4,132.50	35,148.83

Preschool Happenings

1ST DAY OF PRESCHOOL

The first day of preschool is

Monday, September 14th.

We are so excited for an AWESOME year!



HyVee Gift Cards

The preschool will continue selling HyVee Gift Cards this year. We will not have them on hand at the church but if you would like to order some contact Melinda @ melinda.grohs@ststephenmarshall.org or at (507) 537-1516.

Thank You for supporting St. Stephen Preschool!

September 2020



14 Keeley Island Drive
 Slayton, MN 56172
 507-763-3567
 camp@shetek.org
 www.shetek.org

Shetek Lutheran Ministries Where Christ Renews and Empowers

265 campers came to Shetek this summer!

We had family campers, ABC campers and Grandparent/Grandchild campers, along with our youth campers from 2nd grade to 10th grade. Here are some of the comments we heard -

"My daughter really loved her counselors. They made her want to come back!"

"Counselors were great! My camper had nothing but great things to say!"

"She had good conversations with her counselor and cabin mates. She wants to get a version of the Bible more appropriate for her age and a new devotional book to spend more time with God."

We learned about God's faithfulness through generations from Abraham to Joseph to Paul, all the way to us and beyond. God continues to be with us and His love never changes, no matter what.

Our summer staff did an incredible job under challenging circumstances and we are so grateful for all their hard work.

Help send kids to Camp...Become a Pelican Club or Timber Society member today. Pelican Club members support the ministry with a gift of \$100 - \$499 a year and Timber Society members give \$500 or more a year. Thanks for your support!

Updates from camp!

Our Quilt Sale went very well. Over \$25,000 was raised for the ministry at Shetek! Thank You to all who bought an item! Watch for more information about a Holiday Sale through our online camp store.

Missing camp? Families are invited to come out for a getaway. Our program options are limited but we will work with you for some activities that you would like to do - swimming, boating, pontoon rides, fishing, campfires, daily devotions, etc. Contact Jean at 507-763-3567 or jean@shetek.org to set up your time at camp!

During this time, we are thankful for donations from supporters when we don't have any retreat income and program income is way down. If you are able to help out, we really appreciate it!

Our "Building on the Foundation" capital campaign is on hold for now. So far, we've raised just over \$1,000,000 in gifts/pledges towards our \$1,500,000 goal! We'll be continuing the campaign efforts later this year when it is more feasible and safe to do so.

