

Faith Matters

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH MID-MONTH NEWSLETTER



A NEW PRAYER FOR A NEW YEAR:

Father, Thank you for your great love and blessing over our lives. Thank you that your favor has no end, but it lasts for our entire lifetime. Forgive us for sometimes forgetting that you are intimately acquainted with all of our ways, that you know what concerns us, and you cover us as with a shield. We ask that we would walk in your blessing and goodness today. That your face would shine on us. That you would open the right doors for our lives and for our loved ones,

that you would close the wrong doors and protect us from those we need to walk away from. Establish the work of our hands and bring to fulfillment all that you have given us to do in these days. We pray that you would make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of your goodness and love. Give us a heart of wisdom to hear your voice, and make us strong by your huge favor and grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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SAINT STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

ANNUAL MEETING



01.24.21



10:15 AM



Via Zoom

Link coming soon

ZOOM WORSHIP SCHEDULE

COVID still dictates that we worship via Zoom. Sunday 9:00 am, our remote worship will continue. Please feel free to share the Zoom link with family and friends. And if you, or someone you know, isn't on the zoom email list, please email the church office and let us know! If you have any questions, please reach out to us!



Offerings can be donated on the website, or mailed to the office. Thank you for your continued support!



Would you like to share your musical gifts? Email the church office or Wendi McAlonan.



Would you like to assist in worship? Let us know! We are always looking for new assistant ministers.

Sermon Sneak Peek

January 24th: Following Jesus Today

Jesus preached the Kingdom of God. How do we live the Kingdom today? Do we "fish" for people? How do we catch people with the net of God's love? What about repentance? We need to constantly repent (turn to God). These are things we do to follow Jesus today.

January 31st: True Authority

What is authority? Where does it come from? How does one have authority? Jesus teaches with authority. He casts out demons with authority. What is it about Jesus? Jesus knows his end-- he is not afraid of going to the cross. No power can overwhelm this authority -- the authority that is not afraid of self sacrifice.

Helpful Christmas Giving

By: Vicky Hill

St. Stephen's Holiday Giving had to take on a different look this year. Due to the COVID Pandemic, we were not able to work as closely with families that needed assistance as we have in the past. It was also a little more difficult to get contributions as everything needed to come through the mail. So, this year we decided to team up with another rapidly growing community organization: Antioch Traveling Closet. With all the challenges we faced, St. Stephen was still able to show their support through their giving.

Amazing Results!!

We genuinely want to thank all who contributed. Because of you, in just 2 short weeks, we raised \$2,196.97 from our congregation, and \$250.00 from a Thrivent Grant. We have listed below the way the funds were distributed to help those who needed it the most:

3 Families Within Our Congregation

Each family was given monetary support to use as they needed. Whether it was for food, gas, utility payments, or holiday gifts.



Antioch Traveling Closet (ATC)

Based on a needs list provided by them we purchased the following:

- 100 bottles of Laundry Soap
- 100 Boxes of Dryer Sheets
- 116 Bottles of Body Wash
- 105 Men's & Women's Deodorant
- 70 Bars of Soap
- 51 Sets of Shampoo & Conditioner
- 54 Bottles of 2-in-1 Shampoo/Conditioner
- 89 Tubes of Adult Toothpaste
- 12 Tubes of Kid's Toothpaste

And thanks to a separate donation:

- 22 Rolls of Toilet Paper
- 64 Boxes Single Use Laundry Soap
- 20 Clip-on Hand Sanitizers



HELPING OUR OWN

Submitted by Ardy Lange

Our fellow sister in Christ, Roberta, is seeking to rent a home or apartment for herself and three children (2 teenage daughters and an adult son); the home would need to have 3 bedrooms and must be wheelchair accessible (few stair steps, wider doorways); they have housing assistance and can afford to pay \$1000 out of pocket.

Currently, the 3 children are staying in a motel room for \$50 per night. If anyone knows of someone who could help with either their temporary situation (need 2 beds for less than \$50 per night) or knows of a rental for this family of 4, please let Ardy or Vicky know of any leads you may have.

Roberta is challenged with MS. Casey, the oldest, works 2 jobs and is the only driver of the family vehicle; Sharon and Riley are in high school.

WE NEED HELP

Looking for: 3 bedroom
wheelchair accessible
rental for \$1K or less

PLEASE SEND ANY LEADS TO: 847-395-3359
or
EMAIL: STSTEPHENOFANTIOCH@GMAIL.COM



CWM

Christian Wellness Ministry

January Activities

Wed. 1/20 @ 1PM: Senior Wordsmith Writers Group

Fri. 1/22 @1PM: Fireside with the Author. (Rachel Abugov)

Mon. 1/25 @1PM: Color me Happy - Stress Reliever

Tues. 1/26 @10AM: Dance Party (Bring your Chair)

Wed. 1/27 @1PM: Candle Making

Fri. 1/29 @10AM: Music Discussion Group

Fri. 1/29@1PM: Waukegan Underground Railroad- Presented by the Waukegan Historical Society.

All Activities Virtual!



Go-to Meeting site:
global.gotomeeting.com/join/261771629

Or by phone: 786-535-3211
Access code: 261-771-629

Newsletter Deadline

If you have any stories, activities, volunteer opportunities, or announcements, please email them to the office by the 20th of each month.

Any updates received after the 20th will be included in the mid-month newsletter.



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