

Vision of St. Stephen

September 2021



St. Stephen Lutheran Church
 7800 Erie St. • Sylvania, OH
 (419)885-1551
www.ststephenlutheran.church

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Friends & Family Day September 12, 2021

- Hot Dogs
- Lawn Games
- Bring A Bag Chair to Sit and Visit!



St. Stephen Lutheran Church will be celebrating Family and Friends Day on Sunday, September 12th following our 11:00 AM worship. As we celebrate gathering together again in person, we will enjoy a cookout, snacks, and outdoor games for all. Be sure to join us and bring a friend!

Spiritual Growth

BIBLE 101

Bible 101 will return on Tuesday, September 14th at 7:00. Please join us at church for our initial meeting. Prior participation is not necessary! The first few weeks we'll be looking at a Bible study from Gather magazine, while we collect additional ideas for what we'd like to study this fall.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

You're invited to gather at Chick-fil-a on Central and McCord on Saturdays at 9:45 for conversation and "hanging out" with other St. Stephen's folks. We're usually there for about 45 minutes to an hour and you're welcome to come and go as your schedule allows.

INQUIRER'S CLASS

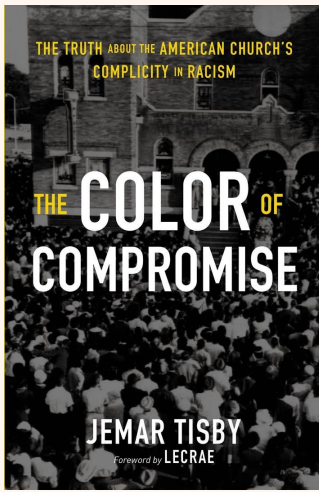
Thinking about becoming a member of St. Stephen? Have some questions about the process? You're invited to a meeting after worship on September 19th from 12-1. If this time doesn't work for you, please speak with Pastor Beth to arrange a different time. Attending this meeting is not a commitment to join, it's an opportunity to explore what being a member here could mean for you.

WALK UP COMMUNION

Walk up communion will continue through September from 4:30-6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. The final day for it will be on Wednesday, September 29th. If you're not yet comfortable coming to worship in our sanctuary, and would like to receive communion at another time, please call Pastor Beth to arrange an individual communion here at church or at your home.

JOY CLUB

"JOY" is an acronym for "Just Older Youth". At St. Stephen, this refers to a group of "young at heart" women who enjoy meeting somewhere for lunch on a monthly basis. Looking back, we have been active since at least 2007 and are trying to reorganize following the Co-Vid shut down of most everything. We are currently gathering on the 3rd Tuesday of the month around noon, and try to find a restaurant within a short 15-20 minute driving distance. We are updating our contact list for email (or phone) notification. We would love to see some of the newer members join us. Adding your name to our contact list does not require monthly attendance. Come when you can. Technically, this has always been a "hen party" but, upon occasion, "roosters" have joined us! This is not an event possible for everyone, but if interested, please call the church office and have your name added. If you are getting notices and don't want them, let the office know. Luncheons will be posted on the monthly Church newsletter schedule so, even if not officially contacted, you are free to call and make a reservation. On September 21, at noon, you're invited to bring a bag lunch to Ruth Moeller's house. Call the church office if you need directions.



THE COLOR OF COMPROMISE

Olivet Lutheran Church cordially invites you to study, “The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church’s Complicity in Racism” This study is to promote conversation, community and conversion as Jemar Tisby’s work is presented over 12 sessions., Mondays at 7 PM from September 13-November 29 at Olivet Lutheran Church. Each session will last about an hour and include a video, discussion and scripture. You can sign up by calling the Olivet office at (419)882-2077 by September 3.

Youth and Family

YOUTH EVENT

Our monthly youth event will be held the 2nd Sunday of the month, beginning with September 12th. We’ll focus on a Bible story and a craft during our time together. We’ll be meeting from 3 to 4 p.m.

WELCOME BACK HIGHLAND

On the Friday before school started, we provided a “welcome back” cake to the faculty and staff of Highland Elementary. We also remembered them and area students in worship in August.

ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

Want to be part of a group growing your faith? Minneapolis, MN is the place for the 2022 National Youth Gathering. Youth who are in grades 8-12 this fall are eligible to go. Please speak with Pastor Beth if you’re interested in attending. We will likely partner up with a local congregation for this event which will be held from July 24-28, 2022.



Outreach

Salem

Richard Cornell used his Thrivent Action Team to provide much needed supplies (especially toilet paper) to the Salem Lutheran Non-Food Pantry! Thank you so much for your generosity!



Pet Blessing

Saturday, September 25th St. Stephen Lutheran Church will hold its annual pet blessing and pet adoption event. There will be several local rescue organizations with pets available for adoption. Come and meet the dogs and cats looking for their forever home! The pet blessings will be held every thirty minutes between 10:30 and 2:30.



Feed Your Neighbor

Donations continue to be delivered to our bin. We are taking about a trunk load full of food to LSS every month. We appreciate your continued support in donations and sharing our "Feed Your Neighbor" mission!



Prayer for the Cure

Sunday, September 19th at 4:00pm, we will be holding Prayer for the Cure. Pastor Beth will lead the service, and Rachel Abbey, a former member and cancer survivor, will share her journey. This service will be a time to gather and lift each other in prayer. Personal prayers will be available to those who wish to receive them. Because cancer patients have compromised immune systems, mask use is requested.



In Loving Memory



Rick Ritzenthaler

Richard F. Ritzenthaler, 66, of Sylvania, OH, passed away Tuesday, July 13, 2021, after a long battle with cancer. He was born March 3, 1955, in Toledo, OH, to Richard and Hazel (Savage) Ritzenthaler. Richard married his true love Michele Dennison in 1987 and together raised three children. He worked in facilities maintenance for 33 years retiring in 2021 from Hometown Foods. Richard enjoyed hunting, fishing, bowling (scored a 300 game), yard work, and being a handy man around his home. He will long be remembered as a loving family man to his children and grandchildren.

Richard is survived by his loving wife, Michele Ritzenthaler; children, Erica Jaquay; Diana (Kevin) Balduff; Alexander (Breanna) Ritzenthaler; grandchildren, Theo, Hadley, and Hayes. He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters, Jackie, Carolyn, and Diana.



Beth Sterba

Elizabeth Dee Sterba, 88, of Sylvania, passed away on July 30, 2021, in her home. She was born October 11, 1932, to Vivian and Arthur Marquardt in Toledo, Ohio. She was the youngest of three children and spent her childhood playing with her older sisters Barbara and Nancy. Beth was a graduate of Woodward High School. She spent many summers volunteering as kitchen supervisor for Camp Easter Seal and retired from Toledo Public Schools as a Security Officer at Start High School.

On May 29, 1958, she married Joseph Robert Sterba. They enjoyed dancing together. Beth and Joe were both active in Bethany Lutheran Church where both daughters were baptized and confirmed. They devoted time to Holy Cross Lutheran Church and St. Stephen Lutheran Church. They loved weekends at the Funny Farm Campground and trips to Charlevoix. They often attended Start baseball games but were devoted to Cathy's skating, Sandy's Special Olympic races, Michael's wrestling, and Claire's gymnastics. Beth also loved her time with her OS group and sorority sisters.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Joseph Robert Sterba, daughter Sandra Sue Sterba and her oldest sister Barbara Ann Gonsowski. She will be forever lovingly remembered by her daughter Cathy Jo Sterba; grandchildren, Michael Evan Gochenour, Claire Elizabeth and Joshua Lee Norman; sister Nancy Jean Aubry; nieces and nephews Dianne, Debra, Robert, Gary, Jodi, and Nancy; grandniece April; and devoted friend Andrew Supinski.

In Loving Memory



Nick Scuralli

Nicola Scuralli, lovingly known as Nick, age 67, passed away peacefully, August 10, 2021 after a 3-year battle with brain cancer, surrounded by family and friends. He was born in Bari, Italy, and was raised in Toronto, Canada. In 1997, he and his family moved to Sylvania, Ohio, where he was a devoted disciple of Christ at St. Stephen Lutheran Church. He worked with his sons in the transportation business through which he traveled the States, making friends wherever he went and cherishing lifelong friendships with those who crossed his path. His friends and family were of tremendous importance to him, and he was quick to lend a hand to anyone. Nick is fondly remembered for his jokes, storytelling, and love of music. He loved to fish and garden, so his family's home was surrounded with the most beautiful flowers throughout spring and summer. He was humble and loved by all he met. He was truly one-of-a-

kind. He and Marilyn were married July 31, 1976 and were blessed to have forty-five truly wonderful years together.

Nick is survived by his loving wife, Marilyn Scuralli (Salmon); children, Adam (Jenna), Jordon, and Sara Scuralli; and four beautiful grandchildren who he loved with his whole heart, Amelia, Elliott, Santino, and Salvatore. In addition, his mother, Gabriella Scuralli and mother-in-law, Edith Salmon; three loving sisters; Stella (Dennis) Tremblay, Lucia (Robert) Martin; and Anna (Fabio) Scatozza; sister-in-law, Debbie (Rick) Nethery; and brothers-in-law Stephen (Nicole) and Glen (Susan) Salmon, along with many amazing nieces and nephews. Nick was preceded in death by his father, Vito Scuralli and father-in-law, James Salmon.

Nick's family would like to thank their friends including Lin and Marty McKelvey, Steve and Kathy Zeigler, Tricia Kunkel, Erich and Lisa Tremblay, Katie Huddleston, Brad and Marlie Wolf, and so many others for their love, support throughout his journey. We also want to thank Dr. Abhijit Saste for all his care during these past few years; the staff of The Lakes of Sylvania nursing home and the Ebeid Hospice Center for their compassionate support

Church Finances

GIVE PLUS

GivePlus will be changing in the very near future. Vanco has been making changes and is setting up a new app for electronic giving. Please be on the lookout for any news regarding the new app as we will be switching very soon, and when we do the complete instructions on how to use the app will be available on the St. Stephen website!



QUARTERLY BENEVOLENCE

For the 2nd quarter of the year, church council gifted Lutheran Disaster Relief with \$1,000 to help the people affected by the Surfside condominium collapse in Miami, FL.

Administrative News

NURSERY ATTENDANT SEARCH

As we look to the fall, we are interested in once again providing nursery care for our youngest members on Sunday mornings. If you or someone you know would be interested in this paid position, please let Pastor Beth or Janell know.

LITTLE MIRACLES

Little Miracle is now back in the building with a before and after school program during the week!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

As always our newsletter deadline for anything you want to be added is the 2nd Tuesday in the month. So for **October 2021** Newsletter please have all your **items submitted by September 14.**



Prayer

SEPTEMBER PRAYER NOTES

Dear Lord

I pray, please bless my family, friends and loved ones with Your love and protect them from harm. Give them grace to forgive, strength to overcome all the difficulties they face and keep them together when the world tries to pull them apart.
Thank You Lord. Amen.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Jill—Comfort, Strength & Peace
Joel—Strength and Recovery
Jamie—Healing and Insight
Hanna C.—Strength and Healing
Chelsey—Healing & Peace
Sarah's Family—Comfort & Healing
Linda—Cancer
Zachary—Answers and Comfort
Richard—Work
Noah—Strength and Understanding
Jeff—Guidance & Understanding
Lyndsey—Healing and Comfort
Mark D—Healing & Comfort
Holt Family—Healthy Family
Julie—Patience, Peace & Guidance
Kathleen—Comfort & Healing
Joan—Healing & Comfort
Nora—Continued Healing
Phillips Family—Healing
Karen—Healing
Jan—Health and Comfort
Ritzenthaler Family—Comfort and Peace
Sterba Family—Comfort & Peace
Scuralli Family—Comfort and Peace
COVID Sufferers

Fun

ALL IN GOOD FUN

Q: What did Jonah's family say when he told them about what happened before he reached Nineveh?

A: Sounds fishy

BIBLE QUIZ

Which man wasn't in the fiery furnace?

(Answer page 10)

- A. Abednego
- B. Shadrach
- C. Mischa
- D. Meshach

ARE YOU OKAY?

If you find yourself in need of emergency supplies or in need of someone to talk to, please don't hesitate to call the church office and we will assist you however we can or direct you to resources that may be able to help.

Council

2021 Council Members

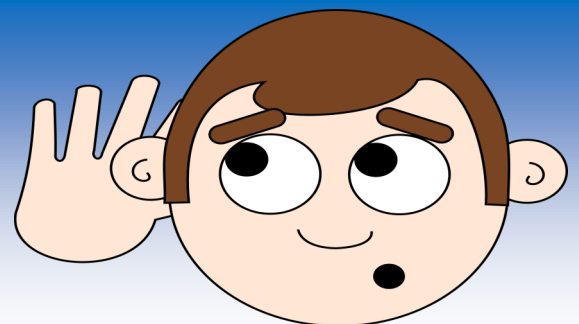
| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>President</i> | Marilyn Scuralli |
| <i>Vice President</i> | Joe Kahl |
| <i>Secretary</i> | Corrie Schuppenies |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Bob Housel |

Ministry Liaisons were established as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Christian Education</i> | Pastor Beth |
| <i>Finance</i> | Marilyn Scuralli |
| <i>Prayer, Praise, Worship</i> | Pastor Beth |
| <i>Property</i> | Joe Kahl |
| <i>Staff Support</i> | Marilyn Scuralli |
| <i>Stewardship/Evangelism</i> | Beth Madden |
| <i>Technology</i> | John Lock |
| <i>Youth & Family Ministry</i> | Corrie Schuppenies |
| <i>Social Ministry</i> | Joan Haddox |

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Hearing assistance equipment for up to 8 users available for anyone who needs help hearing the service better. Please ask Jeremy Hopkins or anyone who uses the equipment for assistance.



Steve's Bulletin Board

Volunteer Sign Up Sheet
 If you would like to help with worship, a new volunteer sign up is available in the Narthex on the bulletin board! Thank you!



October 2nd

A memorial service will be held for Mary Ann Klimesh on October 2nd. Look in future publications for more details as they become available.

Bible Quiz Answer:

C. Mischa

September Celebrations

Baptismal Birthdays

9/1 Marty McKelvey
 9/17 Marilyn Scuralli
 9/28 Joan Haddox
 9/30 Niel Johnson

Birthdays

9/2 Darrell Staup
 9/5 Patrick McCoy
 9/12 Clare Aldrich
 9/14 Lisa Hopkins
 9/22 Aaron Ziegler
 9/25 Ruth Moeller
 9/28 Jackie Cornell

Anniversaries

9/6 L&K Tefft
 9/8 S&A Senci
 9/14 J&K Bork
 9/22 J&S Kahl
 9/27 S&K Ziegler

September 2021

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|-----|--|--|
| | | | 1 4:30 PM Walk Up Communion | 2 | 3 | 4 9:45 AM Coffee and Conversation |
| 5 11AM In Sanctuary/Online Worship | 6 Labor Day | 7 | 8 4:30 PM Walk Up Communion | 9 | 10 | 11 9:45 AM Coffee and Conversation |
| 12 Friends & Family Day 11AM In Sanctuary/Online Worship 12PM Hot Dogs and Games 3pm Youth Event | 13 | 14 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 PM Bible 101 | 15 4:30 PM Walk Up Communion | 16 | 17 | 18 9:45 AM Coffee and Conversation |
| 19 11AM In Sanctuary/Online Worship 12PM Inquirer's Class 4PM Prayer for the Cure | 20 7:00 PM Coun- cil Meeting | 21 7:00 PM Bible 101 | 22 4:30 PM Walk Up Communion | 23 | 24 6PM Virtual Synod Assem- bly | 25 9:45 AM Coffee and Conversation 10:30 AM Pet Blessing |
| 26 11AM In Sanctuary/Online Worship | 27 | 28 LWR Quilting 7:00 PM Bible 101 | 29 4:30 PM Walk Up Communion | 30 | | |