

# Vision of St. Stephen

## June 2021

**Let your light shine before men,  
that they may see your good deeds  
and praise your Father in heaven.**

**Matthew 5:16**

**St. Stephen Lutheran Church**

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Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your name  
And blessed be Your name, when I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness, Blessed be your name.

Every blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise  
And when the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your name,  
Blessed be the name of the Lord, Blessed be Your glorious name.

Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's "all as it should be", blessed be Your name  
And blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your name.

"Blessed Be Your Name" Words and Music: Matt Redman and Beth Redman © 2002 Thankyou Music; admin: EMI Christian Music Publishing CCLI License #450446 CCLI #3798438

For confirmation, I usually ask the young people being confirmed to submit their favorite "church" song for us to sing in worship that day. This year, I was struck that 3 out of our 4 young people had the same favorite. You see the words above.

I won't have a chance to ask these students about this song before our newsletter deadline, but I plan to see about this song draws them in.

In worship this summer most of our gospel texts focus in on what it means to follow Jesus, what it means to be a disciple, what it means to profess God's name in good times and in not so good times. It's a continuation of Luther's words about sanctification, that we are "not being, but becoming...we are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing towards it, the process is not finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road". The texts explore what it means to be a disciple, what it means to day by day try to love all, especially the least of these, your brothers and sisters.

One of the reasons why I like this song is because it acknowledges the honesty that there are troubled times in our lives. We do have days or months when we feel as if we are on our own in the wilderness, when things "are not as they should be". Can we even in those times, give thanks for God's presence with us? We may not be able to do that every day, but hopefully, we can on at least some of those days say, "Blessed be the name of the Lord".

So, in these days of summer, as you watch the growth of your flowers, your garden, and even moan about how fast the grass in the front yard grows, I invite you to think about your growth in faith, your growth in following Jesus. Have you been able to, in times of abundance and in times of desert scarcity, been able to praise the name of God? In times of sunshine and in times of darkness, have you been able to give thanks to God, trusting that God sustains you through the bad as well as the good?

I invite you to worship with us, as we explore this idea of growth. Whether it's in the parking lot, in the sanctuary, or on-line, I look forward to worshipping with you!

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# Spiritual Growth

## **Worship Plans**

During the month of June, we will be alternating in-sanctuary worship services with parking lot services. Each Sunday's worship will be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube. Here's our schedule for Sundays—Parking Lot worship: June 6 and 20, In– Sanctuary worship: June 13 and 27. During our parking lot worship services, you may remain unmasked while outside. Please respect the social distancing guides for those who may be masking.

As the numbers of Covid-19 cases in Lucas County fall, plans are in the works to provide more seating in our sanctuary by reducing the distance between groups. Look for more information on this to come in our July/August newsletter.

## **Communion**

We are planning to return to in person communion in our sanctuary when the Ohio Department of Health color for Lucas County turns yellow. Until then, walk-up communion continues to be offered each Wednesday from 3-6.

## **Bible 101**

Our group is studying the Old Testament book of Job. We're taking a sweeping overview of the book. Here are our topics for the rest of the series: June 1, Job questions God's purpose, June 8, God gives Job a virtual tour of the universe challenging Job to do what God does each day, June 15, Job learns to trust God. You're invited to join in, the group is meeting at church at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, outside if the weather permits. Please bring a Bible and a lawn chair if you have one.

# Youth and Family

## **Fireworks on the Lawn**

The city of Sylvania is resuming the fireworks display at Centennial Terrace this year. However, St. Stephen will not be offering our usual array of amenities that evening. People are welcome to park in our lot and set up chairs on our lawn, but the building will not be open and no porta-potties will be available. Several factors went into this decision: the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July is on Saturday this year, leaving very little clean-up time for the bathrooms and the building before worship the next day; volunteers are hard to find for this event; and the pandemic situation is uncertain.

## **Vacation Bible School**

A place for you... There's a place for you in God's love. How do we know? Well, some interesting characters in the Bible have played an important role in the story of God's people. So surely, there's room for us, too. Join us for Vacation Bible School on Tuesday nights from June 29th through July 20th. During our 90 minute sessions we'll be focusing in on some of the women of the Bible including Rahab, Ruth, Hannah, Jael, Mary, and Esther. We're still working out the time frame, but it will likely be in the evening and will be announced soon. Hope to you can join us for this time of learning, crafts, and fun!

# Outreach

## LWR Quilting

Attention quilters: We are extending our workday to 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM starting on June 22. You may come anytime 9:30 or later and plan to leave by 3 or 3:30, or when you get tired. A lunch break together, (11:45 AM), is included in the day! Bring a sack lunch. Thank you everyone for getting vaccinated and being careful. We will have 24 quilts finished by the end of May! Thanks, Libby Boldt 419-356-6244.



## Father's Day Photos



Do you have a great photo of you with your dad, a brother, your kids, or a favorite uncle? How about one with several generations of men? You're invited to send a favorite photo to Janell by Saturday, June 19. She'll be creating a Facebook page collage to celebrate the connections we share with the men in our lives!

## 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!



## Macaroni Madness

Thank you to everyone for donating to our Macaroni Madness collection in May! Thank you to Joe Kahl for using his Thrivent Action Team! We collected over 500 boxes of macaroni and cheese to donate to local LSS Food Pantry which are all so in need at this time. Thank you again for your generosity St. Stephen!



# Church Finances

## **NEW TREASURER**

St. Stephen is welcoming a new Treasurer to our team. Bob Housel and his wife Judie are 2<sup>nd</sup> service folks. They live in Sylvania and have 2 sons; Patrick [Melissa] and Sean [Maria], and are blessed with 4 grandchildren (Avery, Grant, Quinn, and Henry). Bob will soon be retiring (June 30) from Owens Corning. We are thankful for his willingness to serve the church in this truly important role.

# Administrative News

## **EXCITING UPDATES**

Pastor Beth is resuming in person visits with our shut-in members, following the guidance of the nursing homes where our members live.

All 3 members of our staff members have been vaccinated!

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.

## **PASTOR BETH AT LAKESIDE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Pastor Beth will be spending the week of June 21-25 at Lakeside for the Lutheran Chatauqua week. Bishop Daniel Beaudoin will be providing several presentations each day on the book of Acts and its connection to generosity. We will not be having walk-up communion that week because of her absence.



# Prayer

## My Summer Prayer

As I begin the summer months,  
gracious and loving Jesus,  
remind me of Your ever present  
guidance and love.

Give me confidence in Your presence,  
remembering all that I have been  
taught this year and let me  
live it in my summer experiences.

As I work, play and enjoy  
my family and friends this summer,  
may I feel Your love within me,  
guiding me toward all  
that is right and just.

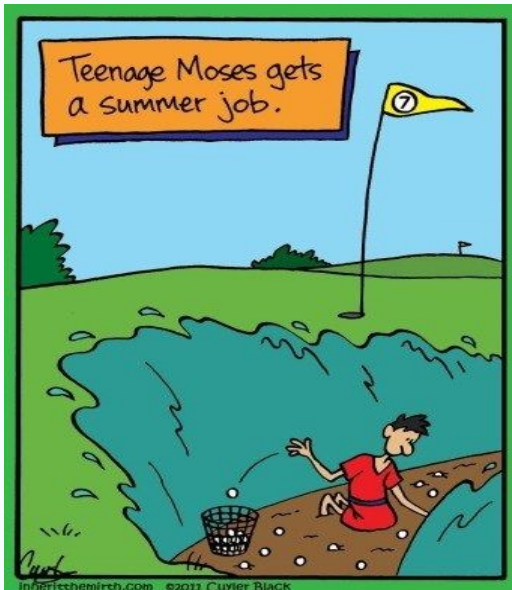
Let me be grateful for the gift  
of summer, Jesus. Allow me  
to enjoy it safely and remind  
me daily of Your love for me.  
Amen.

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Jill—Comfort, Strength & Peace  
Joel—Strength and Recovery  
Jamie—Healing and Insight  
Hanna C.—Strength and Healing  
Chelsey—Healing & Peace  
Lila & Lib—Peace & Comfort  
Sarah's Family—Comfort & Healing  
Linda—Cancer  
Zachary—Answers and Comfort  
Richard—Work  
Noah—Strength and Understanding  
Jeff—Guidance & Understanding  
Lyndsey—Healing and Comfort  
Chesney's Family  
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  
COVID Sufferers

# Fun

## ALL IN GOOD FUN



## BIBLE QUIZ

From where did God answer Job?

(Answer page 10)

- A. A Cloud
- B. An Angel
- C. A Bush
- D. A Whirlwind

### **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><b>President</b></i>	Marilyn Scuralli
<i><b>Vice President</b></i>	Joe Kahl
<i><b>Secretary</b></i>	Corrie Schuppenies
<i><b>Treasurer</b></i>	Bob Housel

## **Ministry Liaisons were established as follows:**

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

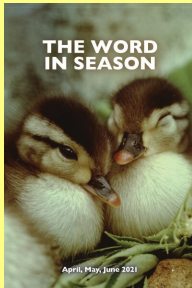
## Need Help?

Need help registering for Covid-19 vaccine? Please call the church office and we'll help you fill out the form that is being requested by the Lucas County Health Department.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

As always our newsletter deadline for anything you want to be added is the 2nd Tuesday in the month. So for **July/August 2021** Newsletter please have all your **items submitted by June 8.**

## THE WORD IN SEASON



## Word in Season

The Word in Season for April, May and June are now at the church! If you can't make it to the building to pick one up, call the office and Janell can send you one!

Bible Quiz Answer:

D. A Whirlwind

# June Celebrations

## Baptismal Birthdays

6/1	Sarah McCoy
6/2	Joe Kahl
6/4	Christine Kahan
6/6	Jenny Troutman
6/10	Peggy Scholl
6/14	Dave Davis
6/23	Ryann Fox

## Birthdays

6/5	Lynn Golba
6/14	Carol Brown
6/15	Joan Haddox
6/16	Mia Scsavnicki
6/17	Nancy Kubiak
6/21	Carol Haddix
6/25	Mike Gilley
6/25	Ashley Senci
6/27	Evin McCoy
6/28	Jettie Sansbury

## Anniversaries

6/29	Ray & Marilyn Hendricks
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# June 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 PM Bible 101	2 3:00 PM Walk Up Communion	3	4	5
6 11AM Online/ Parking Lot Worship	7	8 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 PM Bible 101	9 3:00 PM Walk Up Communion	10	11	12
13 11AM Online/In Sanctuary Worship	14	15 7:00 PM Bible 101	16 3:00 PM Walk Up Communion	17	18	19 Send Photos to Janell!
20 Father's Day 11AM Online/ Parking Lot Worship	21 7:00 PM Coun- cil Meeting	22 12:00 PM LWR Quilting	23	24	25	26
	Pastor Beth @ Lakeside					
27 11AM Online/In Sanctuary Worship	28	29 Vacation Bible School	30 3:00 PM Walk Up Communion			