



Beacon of St. Stephen

September 4, 2011

ANNOUNCEMENTS

7800 Erie Street; Sylvania, OH 43560

419-885-1551

e-mail: sslcsecretary@buckeye-express.com

website: www.ststephensylvania.org

Summer Interim Pastor: Peter Martyn

Monday - Wednesday.

IN OFFICE: 10AM-1PM

PASTORAL CALLING 1-3PM

unless a scheduled office appointment.

Thursdays & Fridays: Emergencies only

WELCOME.....

If you are visiting today, we invite you to sign our guest book, take a visitor bag, a booklet, and fill out a visitor card so that we may get to know each other better.

ST. STEPHEN IS AN ACTIVE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SEEKING TO GLORIFY GOD BY SERVING OTHERS. WE FOSTER AN OPEN AND LOVING ENVIRONMENT WHERE PEOPLE GROW CLOSER TO CHRIST AND ARE INSPIRED TO SHARE HIS LOVE WITH EVERYONE.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY—THURSDAY

9:00 AM—1:00 PM

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 PRAYER

8:30 WORSHIP

11:00 WORSHIP AND PRAISE

LARGE print service bulletins are available. Ushers have copies.

WE WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOU BY NAME! Nametags are on the credenza. Replacements available upon request.

LET EVERYONE KNOW WHO YOU ARE!

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

GATHERING SPACE (adults) 9:45. September 11, we will meet in the Fellowship room for a 4 week session with Pr. Peter on Support Experience. Join Us!

All Kids, age 4-grade 6, are invited to **KidZone Hour** while parents are at Spiritual Growth! class

Nursery Care (age 9 mos to 4 yrs) **CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME** in our worship service. The nursery is also staffed & available for your during the service and Spiritual Growth classes. *The worship service broadcasts into the nursery.*

Children's **CLIPBOARDS, CRAYONS, PENCILS, PAPERS** are inside sanctuary entrance

MEN OF FAITH meet at Nautica the 2ND & 4TH Thursdays @ 6:30AM each month for coffee, study & discussion. Join us September 8 & 22.

SEPTEMBER 10: 10AM 3PM HEALTH & COMMUNITY AWARENESS FAIR: As we commemorate the 10TH anniversary of the World Trade Center bombing, it is a fitting event to make our community aware of the public entities (ie: police & firemen) available to help in emergencies; and offer an opportunity to identify any health issues they may have. Invite your friends and neighbors, as many health organizations will be present. Flu shots will be offered by a local pharmacy. We need people to serve as hosts/hostesses to welcome those coming in the building.

SUNDAY LESSONS

K*ids*, Join us for a new year of Sunday Lessons.

We'll meet following the Children's Sermon during the 11:00 service starting next, Sunday, **September 11TH.**

There will be a fun lesson and snack.

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN YOU FOR A YEAR OF EXCITING FUN!

9/11/11 Joseph Helps His Family Genesis 45:1-15; 50:15-21
9/18/11 The Vineyard Workers Matthew 20:1-16
9/25/11 The Chief Priests Matthew 21:23-32

WITH DEEP GRATITUDE ... the faithful of St. Stephen's give thanks to JOHN HOPKINS for fashioning 12 "**rugged crosses**" for our educational rooms. Never let it be said that God's faithful do not respond to His Word through sermons. **THANK YOU, JOHN!**

LOSS:



"Can't Live With It; - Can't Live Without It"

A four-week Support Experience

for anyone who has suffered a loss – a death, a divorce, a loss of a pastor, etc. etc.

led by Pastor Peter R. Martyn

FOUR SUNDAYS STARTING SEPTEMBER 11TH
September 11 ... 18 ... 25 ... and October 2
The Fellowship Room – St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church
9:45AM – EVERY SUNDAY

JOY CLUB Kay Bork has invited us to her home, 2426 Gibley Park Rd, in the St. James Sub-Division, for an "encore" picnic; **12:30 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH**. She'll provide sandwiches and beverages, and we will each bring a **DISH TO PASS**. If you would like to car pool from church, be there by noon. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to attend and indicate the dish you plan to bring. Designate whether you will car pool or drive yourself. Hope you can come!

OCTOBER 16: SYLVANIA FALL FESTIVAL: No pumpkins this year, but we'll have a booth & need outgoing people to help present/introduce St. Stephen to the community in a different setting.

SAVE THE DATE: Walk to Defeat ALS, **October 2** Walk with other St. Stephen folks right after 11:00 service at Flower Hospital). Check the bulletin board for more information.

HEALING PRAYERS: anyone who wishes to have someone pray with them after service, please look for one of the Prayer Assistants: Nancy Pfau, Rod Hochstetler, Lin McKelvey or Betty Lock. They will be happy to go into the prayer chapel with you, anoint with oil and pray for your needs or concerns.

PASTORAL CARE remains available throughout our transition. Pastor Peter will respond directly to any concerns of pastoral care addressed to him; however, you may also contact Wendy Staup for the St. Stephen's care team which remains available in this time of transition.

SPECIAL PRAYER NEEDS, you may fill out a prayer slip today (*inside the blue Friendship Registers at each row of chairs*), call 419-885-1551, or e-mail your requests to the church at sslcsecretary@bex.net. When the office isn't staffed, messages may be left on the church answering machine, (do **NOT** leave confidential requests on the answering machine). For crisis situations, when you want the entire congregation to join in prayer, contact the office during the day (419-885-1551) and Wendy Staup (419-474-3086 or wjstaup@aol.com) evenings and weekends to activate the Information Chain.

"INFORMATION CHAIN" Please keep the office updated with changes to your address, email and phone number, so we may keep in touch with you.

We've come to rest from our labors, Lord, because your yoke is easy and your burden is

light.

Refresh us, O Jesus.

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

(Cards & Prayers welcomed.)

Phyllis Anderson

Ervin Boelter @ Kingston

Chuck Estes

Dorothy Estes

Ken Kopfmann @ Kingston

Marilyn Martin

Jayne Pratt

Jackie Ritzenthaler

GIFTS

General: \$2826.00

Future Needs: \$0.00

Building Fund: \$525.00

Other Designated: \$55.00

DESIGNATE OUTSIDE THE ENVELOPE & IN CHECK MEMO AREA, THE FUND TO APPLY DONATION.

GENERAL FUND: Monthly Operating Expenses

BUILDING FUND: for future "Building Growth"

FUTURES NEEDS FUND designate offerings for future church needs

NOTICE TO ALL THRIVENT MEMBERS,

If you have not designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars, please do so at your earliest convenience. This money is allotted to you to direct it to whatever Lutheran organization in our area that you choose. You may do this by calling 1-800-847-4836 and when prompted say, "Thrivent Choice". When prompted again say, "Choice Dollars". Just follow the prompts given to you. It is a very easy procedure. If you'd like help Ruth, Sally and Jean will be available at the potluck on September 11 to help. Thank You. *Your St. Stephen Thrivent Advocates*

LSS Food Pantry

ON-GOING LSS FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

September: BAKED BEANS, DRIED BEANS, RICE

Donations may be placed in the white shopping cart in the narthex

**TODAY, September 4
NOISY OFFERING**

donation to LWR

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE FOR THOSE IN NEED.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF (LWR) is asking for donations to assist those suffering from drought in East Africa. People, young and old, are traveling to refugee camps that are not equipped to hold the amount of people that need help. LWR is asking for donations to send immediate aid to those suffering. They will donate food rations, shelter and other needed services. To find out how to donate quickly and easily, you may visit <http://lwr.org/site/c.dmJXKiOYJgl6G/b.6319057/k.C1B0/Donate.htm>. Please keep the people of East Africa in your prayers. Kathy Aldrich - Social Concerns Liaison

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

PLEASE READ Thank you to everyone who has signed up with Kroger Community Rewards to have funds sent to St. Stephen based off your purchases. We've been averaging \$200+ each quarter. However, please note this needs to be looked at on a regular basis. This past quarter we rec'd less than \$100. It appears many who were pledging the previous year may have dropped off.

Please go into www.krogercommunityrewards.com to confirm your purchases are still being assigned to St. Stephen. If you don't see St. Stephen listed, please consider resigning up for this program.

For those who have not signed up yet, please do so. It is making a difference *Kathy Aldrich, Social Concerns Liaison*



WE FILLED 54 BOXES AT OUR U-ME-OCC PICNIC.

WHAT A GREAT START!

DON'T FORGET:

- SEPTEMBER 25** Bring in filled shoe boxes
 - OCTOBER 23** Last chance to bring in shoe boxes.
 - NOVEMBER 14** DELIVER SHOE BOXES TO COLLECTION SITE!
- Brochures for Operation Christmas Child on the table by the name tags



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Anyone interested in providing MEALS for—or TRANSPORTING—for members of our congregation on request, please sign up on the bulletin board.



Interim Pastor : Rev. Peter Martyn ~ Music: Scott Ballard ~ Counter: Ken Marvin

SERVING WEEK of: September 4

Council Person

8:30 Rod Hochstetler

11:00 Beth Thomsen

Lay Assistants

8:30 Dan Gustafson

11:00 Bob Rieck

Acolyte

8:30 volunteer
11:00 Sydney Seretsky
Altar Preparation
8:30 Cathy Gustafson
11:00 J. Liaros / R. Liaros

Greeters

8:30 W&D Staup
11:00 P&R Cutler

Ushers

8:30 W&D Staup
11:00 S&J Kahl

SERVING WEEK of: September 11

Council Person

8:30 Rod Hochstetler
11:00 Nick Liaros

Lay Assistants

8:30 Anne Cox
11:00 Dave Haddix

Acolyte

8:30 volunteer
11:00 Anthony Russell

Altar Preparation

8:30 Pat Hoehing
11:00 Tricia Kunkel

Greeters

8:30 P&H Hoehing
11:00 M&C Williams

Ushers

8:30 P&H Hoehing
11:00 T&J Kunkel

Musicians: Jacob Pratt, Tim Tefft **CD Recording:** Marty McKelvey

2011 VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

SHEET is available on the bulletin board. Check your calendar & SIGN UP for the *BEST TIMES* to ASSIST in our services. Or call **Cathy Gustafson** to volunteer for *Lay Assistant, Acolyte, Greeters & Ushers*.

Any slots not filled in will be assigned as in the past.

REMINDER: If you are unable to serve on your day, you are responsible to get a replacement and call the church office with the updated information.

ACTIVITIES

September 4—11

ON-GOING LSS FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION

Sunday:

8:00AM Prayer
8:30AM Worship
11:00AM Worship & Praise

Monday:

Tuesday:

10:00AM Employment Resource Center

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

7:00PM Set up for Fair

Saturday:

10:00AM Health & Community Awareness Fair

Sunday:

NOISY OFFERING

8:00AM Prayer

8:30AM Worship

9:45AM Spiritual Growth +

11:00AM Worship & Praise #

12:00PM Potluck & Entertainment

+During the Spiritual Growth classes, children may visit the KidZone
Sunday Lessons after Children's Sermon thru Peace

MORE INFORMATION & OPPORTUNITIES ON THE BULLETIN BOARD

ALTAR FLOWERS

*Celebrating their 34th Wedding Anniversary
Patti & Rodney Pearson*

2011 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR

dates available for Memorials, Remembrances, Celebrations

3rd Quarter *Word In Season* Take one for yourself & a friend; see usher for copies.

2011 POCKET CALENDARS are available by the usher's table. Take one!

DON'T HAVE EMAIL? Look for the latest edition of the Newsletter, ***The Vision of St. Stephen***, in the information rack @ above the usher's table

As always, remember to call or send your changes to the office, so we may keep our records up to date and get in touch with you when necessary

READINGS September 11th

First Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21

Psalm: 103:1-13

Second Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35