

The Quill

February 2019

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
290 W. Gloucester St. Gladstone, OR 97027
Church—503.656.8194 Preschool—503.656.3035
sslc@sslcladstone.org
www.sslcladstone.org



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CONGREGATION OF ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH



Who's Who

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

290 W. Gloucester St., Gladstone, OR 97027
Telephone: 503 656-8194 • sslc@sslcladstone.org

Interim Pastor	Sue Seiffert
Minister of Youth & Families	Tessa Dailey
Congregation President	Jason Fosberg
Vice President	Jeff Garrett
Treasurer	Connie Cook
Finance Secretary	Polly Domine
Bell Choir Director	Emily Boleyn
Praise Pals/Youth Worship Team	Audrey Weintz
Nursery Attendant	Alex Kaster

A Special Thanks

To ALL the volunteers who make St. Stephen's run!



Quilts for Sale:
Baby Quilts (36x48): \$30
Lap Quilts (size varies): \$40

ST. STEPHEN IS A WELCOMING COMMUNITY. BELIEVING GOD LOVES EVERYONE AND ALL CREATION.
SHARING OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS IN SERVICE AND CELEBRATION.



From the Interim Pastor

This is the fifteenth interim site I have served. At each place, I have worked with a Transition Team (sometimes under a different name, but the same concept). To quote from a manual on interim ministry: "The Transition Team is one of the key components to the Intentional Interim Ministry process. In fact, it may well be the single most important element."

The interim process involves every member of the congregation. The Transition Team will help facilitate conversation and communication so that everyone's voice is heard. They will listen to what the congregation says, assemble information, assess, discern how God is at work in the congregation, and then articulate the congregation's identity, its mission and ministry, so that the future Call Committee will be well-equipped to enter the active phase of the call process.

I will work closely with the Transition Team, coaching and advising them as the work progresses. We will be addressing three critical questions:

Who are we?

Who are our neighbors?

What is God calling us to do and to be?

We will look at these questions through different focus points, putting them into this particular context: Who is St. Stephen Lutheran Church in 2019? Who are our neighbors, who can we serve? What is God calling St. Stephen Lutheran Church to do in the next few years, how is God calling the congregation to be present in the world?

The Transition Team has a lot of work ahead! The congregation will play a key role in its formation of the Transition Team. It begins with prayer and reflection. I ask each person who is reading this to spend some time prayer. Seek to discern whom God might be calling for this role. Transition Team members need to be trusted and respected. They need to be prayerful and spiritually wise. They need to be connected to the congregation, so they should regularly attend worship and contribute to the ministries of the congregation. And they need to be good listeners. Who do you know who has these qualities? Reflect also on people whom you may not know very well: do you see these qualities in them?

In a few weeks, you will be asked to take a piece of paper and write down up to four names. I will take these lists and compile them. Those who are named most frequently will get a phone call and will be asked to prayerfully consider serving on the Transition Team.

Please note, the members of the Executive Board will not be part of the Transition Team, since they will have other significant tasks during this time. However, other members of the Leadership Board may serve. I also recommend that staff members not serve on the team, although they are certainly a valuable part of the process; again it's a matter of having other significant tasks that happen during the transition.

The process of naming the Transition Team is important work, but I am confident that the Holy Spirit will guide you. Spend time in prayer. Listen for the voice of the Spirit. Talk to one another. And talk to me, ask me any questions.

Peace be with you!

Pastor Sue



Letter from President Emeritus

I am approaching my 50th birthday this year and this causes me to reflect on what is important. A real focus is on my interactions with people. As you likely know, I work for the State of Oregon, in a position that comes with some authority. My interactions with people could be one of imposing my authority on people without listening, a Judge Judy type of bombastic interaction. But my soul is happier and much more in line with Jesus' teachings when my interactions are ones where I listen and understand that each person is coming from a different set of life experiences and gifts than I am, even when I don't agree with their choices.

As a child of God, I along with all of you have to deal with people who do not communicate in a style that I prefer, or maybe a style that I am not used to. My responses need to reflect that I value what God values. I was talking with a friend about a person I had hurt with my words at Church and he pointed out that Jesus taught us how to deal with communication problems at Church. In Matthew 18, Jesus sets out how we are to handle hurtful or uncomfortable situations. I find Eugene Peterson's interpretation in the Message Bible the easiest to apply to today's world. Matthew 18:15-16 states, "If a fellow believer hurts you, go and tell him—work it out between the two of you. If he listens, you've made a friend. If he won't listen, take one or two others along so that the presence of witnesses will keep things honest, and try again."

I tried to use this approach when I was approached by a member of the staff with complaints that another staff member had hurt their feelings with what they said. The staff member who I spoke to refused to work with the other staff member about the issues that had hurt them. Eventually I spoke to the other staff member about what had caused the hurt and explained how their words had hurt that person. It was a good discussion and they were open to about changing their words/phrasing.

I am asking you as strongly as I can to go to the church member who is causing or has caused you hurt. I have talked with Jason and Pastor Sue about this and none of us have intended for our words or actions to have hurt others. I know none of us are perfect and we as a congregation can only grow if we are willing to talk to each other especially when I or someone else has hurt you. Please let us all come together for the sake of everyone and begin to heal by following Jesus' directions to talk to one another when we have been hurt.

Jill Marie Messecar

President's Report

Thank you, thank you, thank you. We had two great congregational meetings and I am both relieved and excited for the church. The first meeting was for the Call of Bill Johnsen, as Deacon for the Word and Service Ministry for St. Stephen's Church. Bill has spent countless hours pursuing this calling and we were able to offer this to him.

The second was a much more potentially difficult part. Approving the budget for the fiscal year. This portion had a lot of moving parts to it and the Leadership Board worked at it for all of us to come up with a responsible answer to meet the needs of the Church. This was also approved and it puts us on a much more solid foundation moving forward.

We still have a lot more to accomplish in the near future. With that, I ask all of you to still pray for our church and its members. I would echo what Jill had to say, if there is ever anything that I or we can do for you, please come and talk with us. We are in this together, with God guiding us through this process.

Jason

*ST STEPHEN IS A WELCOMING COMMUNITY. BELIEVING GOD LOVES EVERYONE AND ALL CREATION.
SHARING OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS IN SERVICE AND CELEBRATION.*



From the Preschool

The preschoolers have been very busy since their Winter Break. We have been learning about snow and animals that spend their lives in snow and ice. We've been talking about the clothes we should wear in the snow, too. One of our favorite books in January was "The Mitten" by Jan Brett – the illustrations are just beautiful!! Maybe we will have some snow by the time you read this article



Some of
our re-
cent art-
work!



Now we are planning our Valentine parties and working on all kinds of projects using hearts – so we can show our families and friends how much we love them. And, of course, we are beginning to look forward to spring projects, spring walks and playing in our playground.

Yes, spring is just around the corner and preschool registration for the 2019-2020 school year will begin soon.

We are planning to offer two classes next year. We will have a Tuesday/Thursday morning (9am to noon) "3 year old" class and a Monday/Wednesday/Friday morning (9am to noon) "4s/Pre-K" class.

Encourage your friends and family to call the preschool at 503-656-3035 or email us at preschool@sslcladstone.org. They can also check out our website at www.ststephenpreschool.webs.com.

Our Annual Plant Sale Fundraiser may have already begun by the time this Quill is published so watch for order forms!

Lori Funk
Director

St. Stephen Lutheran Preschool Plant Sale

290 W. Gloucester, Gladstone 97027

ORDER FORM – 2019

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Orders and payment due Wednesday, March 13.

Everything will be ready to pick up the afternoon of Sunday, May 5th.

**BEDDING PLANTS are \$15.00
per flat (24 plants per flat)**

Number Cost

Alyssum-white		
Lobelia-mix		
Marigold-mix		
Petunia-mix		

**GERANIUMS are \$4.00 each
(4-inch pots)**

Number Cost

Geranium-Red		
Geranium-Pink		
Geranium-White		

Tomatoes are \$6.00 (1 gallon)

Number Cost

Cherry tomatoes		
Early Girl		

Gift Certificates are \$25.00

Number Cost

Gift Certificate		
------------------	--	--

HANGING BASKETS are \$30.00

Number Cost

Combination Basket		
--------------------	--	--

Number Cost

Bedding Plants: _____ | _____

Geraniums: _____ | _____

Tomatoes: _____ | _____

Hanging

Baskets: _____ | _____

Gift Certificates: _____ | _____

GRAND TOTAL _____ | _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. STEPHEN PRESCHOOL.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Youth Group



The End-of-the-Rainbow-Auction

When: 5-7pm, Sunday, March 17th



Join Us for Brush and Brunch

March 9th, 2019 from 10am - 1pm

Fee is \$35 and includes:

Canvas, Paint, Brushes and step by step instruction from professional artist Michele of Free to be Art

Great Fun and Amazing fellowship!!

All are welcome!

Please RSVP to Madison

via email: berrethmadison@gmail.com

share the
love social



Dessert Potluck

&

Game Night!



Cancelled for weather



St. Stephen Lutheran Church Youth Group



Annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Feed

5-7pm, Tuesday, March 5th

St Stephen Lutheran Church, Outside Groups, Youth and Family Ministries,
Holidays in United States

Feb 2019 (Pacific Time - Los Angeles)

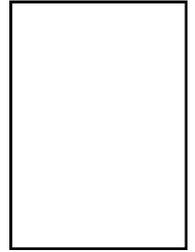
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Eucharistic 9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contempo	28 4:30pm - Praise Pals 6pm - TOPS @ 7pm - Worship Team	29 12pm - Cluster 5pm - Cubscouts @	30 7pm - Ball Choir	31 6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @	1 9am - TOPS @	2 3pm - G.A. @
3 9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contempo	4 4:30pm - Praise Pals 6pm - TOPS @ 7pm - Worship Team	5 GS Senior Center 12pm - Cluster 5pm - Cubscouts @	6 8:15am - Bible 6pm - Dance Team 7pm - Ball Choir	7 9:30am - Sew & 5:30pm - Executive 6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @	8 9am - TOPS @	9 9:30am - Citizens 3pm - G.A. @
10 Baptismal 9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contempo 6pm - Share the <3	11 4:30pm - Praise Pals 6pm - TOPS @ 7pm - Quarterly 7pm - Worship Team	12 12pm - Cluster 5pm - Cubscouts @ 7pm - Leadership	13 9:30am - Bible 7pm - Ball Choir	14 Valentine's Day 6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @	15 9am - TOPS @	16 8:30am - Men's 12pm - reserved - 3pm - G.A. @
17 9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contempo	18 Presidents' Day Gull Deadline 18th 4:30pm - Praise Pals 6pm - TOPS @ 7pm - Worship Team	19 GS Senior Center 12pm - Cluster 5pm - Cubscouts @ 7pm - Bunco @ In	20 8:15am - Bible 11:30am - Silver 7pm - Ball Choir	21 9:30am - Quilters @ 6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @	22 9am - TOPS @	23 8:30am - Women's 10am - KOPS @ 3pm - G.A. @
24 Bill Johnson Eucharistic 9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contempo	25 4:30pm - Praise Pals 6pm - TOPS @ 7pm - Worship Team	26 12pm - Cluster 5pm - Cubscouts @	27 9:30am - Bible 7pm - Ball Choir	28 6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @	1 9am - TOPS @	2 3pm - G.A. @

Worship Assistants for the Month of February 2019

Ministers, thank you for serving! If you cannot serve on the day assigned, it would be appreciated if you could find a replacement and let the church office know so it can be changed in the bulletin. Thank you!

		3-Feb	10-Feb	17-Feb	24-Feb
Setting		<i>Setting 1</i>	<i>Setting 1</i>	<i>Setting 1</i>	<i>Setting 1</i>
Flowers					
Greeters	9:00 am				
	11:15 am				
Ushers	9:00 am	Douglas B	Berreth C&D	Douglas B / Lori Downs	
	11:15 am	Tom O'Neil / Steve Domine	Jere Applebee / DJ Becker	Steve & Polly Domine	Steve & Polly Domine
Readers	9:00 am		Barb Carter	Chris Duncan	
	11:15 am	Audrey W	Bill Johnsen	Bill Johnsen	Cheryl Ridlon
Cantor	9:00 am	Rob Kugler	Chris Duncan	Rob Kugler	
Assistant Ministers	9:00 am	Barb Carter	Barb Carter	Barb Carter	
	11:15 am	Doug Boleyn	LaRae Applebee	Bill Johnsen	Audrey W
Communion Assistants	9:00 am	Rob Kugler		Rob Kugler	
	11:15 am	Jill M / Audrey W	Tessa D/Polly D	Connie C/Emily B	Cheryl R/Audrey W
Sound	9:00 am				
	11:15 am	Andrea D	Tessa D	Andrea D	Tessa D
Audio-Visual	9:00 am				
	11:15 am	Tessa D	Andrea D	Tessa D	Andrea D
Prayer Minister	9:00 am				Carolyn Hauck
	11:15 am	Sally Lindgren	Eileen Johnsen	Sally Lindgren	Bill Johnsen
Bread Baker		Bonnie Beisell	Nadine Hermann	Helen Holden	Del Smith
Tellers			Nadine / Polly		Sue R / Cheryl Ridlon
Wine	month				
Altar Guild	month	Diane Berreth & Cheryl Ridlon			

ST. STEPHEN
Lutheran Church
290 W. Gloucester St.
Gladstone, OR 97027



February • Newsletter



Thank you, God!

Thank you for a fresh new year, filled with endless possibilities



Gather with Friends

Silver Saints: Feb. 20th, 11:30am @ La Hacienda
Men's Breakfast: Feb. 16th, 8:30am @ Denny's
Women's Breakfast: Feb. 23rd, 8:30am @ Shari's OC Shopping Center



Volunteers Needed!

- Prayer Ministers
- Tellers
- Bread Bakers
- Communion Assistants
- AV & Sound System
- Vocal opportunities at both 9am & 11:15am services
- Ushers & Greeters
- Assisting Ministers
- Readers
- Altar Guild
- TLC Team



Worship with Us!



Traditional Worship • 9am

Contemporary Worship • 11:15am



Prayer Chain

John (Tessa's brother) for hope and peace in a time of stress; Dee Hanson as more medical tests are done, Alan Boney, Sarah Pfungsten, Jennifer Fosberg (recovery after surgery), Gary (friend of Sally Lindgren following surgery for brain cancer), Pat Perkins (recovering from surgery), Anna (Connie Cook's daughter, healing after an auto accident), Brian Waverly, John Bailey (Avis Bailey's brother), John Korsmo (Avis Bailey's brother), Bill Johnsen's recovery from surgery, for all military personnel and first responders and their families; especially those in harm's way, for the Leadership Board of St. Stephen as it meets this week.

If someone needs to be put on the prayer chain, please contact:
Carolyn Hauck: 503-329-5333, Lois Smith: 503-473-1876 Helen Holden: 503-650-3094

ST. STEPHEN IS A WELCOMING COMMUNITY. BELIEVING GOD LOVES EVERYONE AND ALL CREATION.
SHARING OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS IN SERVICE AND CELEBRATION.