

The Quill

November 2018

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 *FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR'S DESK*

Greetings! I'm your interim pastor. Let me introduce myself. I am an ordained minister of Word and Sacrament in the ELCA. And I am a trained intentional interim pastor. Before coming to St. Stephen, I served fourteen interims in four different states. Several of those interims involved more than one congregation, so I have served twenty-nine different congregations. You are interim number fifteen, congregation number thirty! I don't even want to hazard a guess about how many different people I have served in those different congregations. Please be patient with me as I learn your names and don't be surprised if I call you by someone else's name.

Transition times, times of change, can be challenging. There can be a lot of different emotions. My role as interim pastor will be to walk with you through these challenging times. Transition times are also times of opportunity. My role also includes helping you to make the best possible use of the opportunities that God is giving you. Working with your leaders and with every person in the congregation, I will seek to equip you to move through this transition in a way that will help you discern where God is leading you. As the weeks and months unfold, you will be hearing much more about this. In the meantime, I will be your pastor.

As your pastor, I will preach and lead worship. I will baptize and provide memorial services. I will walk with those who experience crises and pray for all members. I will be your pastor. When I begin an interim, I work

long days as I seek to get to know as many of you as quickly as possible; I will be scheduling times to meet with people. I will have a Sabbath day off every week; initially it may vary as I learn the rhythm of the congregation and figure out what will work best for all of us. It is my custom to post a rough schedule of each week on my office door so that anyone can see when I expect to be back in the office

I am single with no children, unless you count my very spoiled cat. I have one brother who lives in Minnesota (he will be here for a visit the week of November 12). I have two nephews; one lives in Wisconsin, one lives in New York with his wife and two-year-old daughter. My father is 92 and lives in an assisted living facility in northeast Portland. My mother passed away in May, 2017.

As the weeks and months unfold, we will have many opportunities to get to know one another. It will be a pleasure to be your interim pastor. I am confident that God will bless our time together.

Peace,
Pastor Sue Seiffert

Pastor@sslcladstone.org





November 21
to
December 16

Please donate new, un-
wrapped toys

Clackamas County Foster Care & DHS Children



November 11, 2018



**We will
Honor all
who served**

Who was the biggest financial wizard in the Bible?
...Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else
was in liquidation.



Ancient Carols of Love and Light

Saturday, December 1 at 7pm

Sunday, December 2 at 3pm

Chautauqua Community Chorus
St. Stephen Worship Team
St. Stephen Handbell Choir
Praise Pals & Youth Worship Team
and
Special Guests



St Stephen Lutheran Church 290 W Gloucester St, Gladstone, OR 503.656.8194



Church Upkeep

Advent Decorating: Help needed with decorating our church for Advent on Saturday, November 24th starting at 9:30. We welcome your help! Please watch clipboards for signups.

Sanctuary: Some TLC is needed to spiff up the Sanctuary with some dusting & wood polish & a little bit of love.

Lawn Care: Please **do not** rake leaves into the street as it clogs the drains and it creates a mess when cars park along the curb. Please fill the yard debris containers on the Beatrice side of building.

Please contact Audrey at 503-957-7537



Music Ministry

- Nov. 4 All Saints Day,** Guest trumpeters Cody Simmons and Alex Lowe bring solemnity and bravura to this commemoration of our Saints
- Dec. 1-2 "Christmas at the Castle" concerts** at 7pm (Sat.) & 3pm (Sun.) with the Chautauqua Community Chorus, Bell Choir, Worship Team, Praise Pals, Youth Worship Team, & Guests
- Dec. 5 Advent Vespers** at 7pm, featuring Holden Evening Prayer Vespers service
- Dec. 9 4pm Caroling with the youth** + Chautauqua Community Chorus potluck (all are welcome!)
- Dec. 16 St. Stephen Christmas Pageant,** 10am service, featuring intergenerational cast and musicians with sing along carols
- Dec. 23 Little Christmas Eve** ("Lille Juleaften" in Norwegian), 10am service, Guests from Fossegrimen Folk band help lead Nordic/Germanic Carols with traditional Nordic instruments
- Dec. 24 Three Christmas Eve Services** available from afternoon to midnight Mass to meet different family and worship style needs
- Dec. 30 10am Carol Sing Service**





Why I Attend Church

by Brian Yapko

In August, just before Jerry and I moved from Oregon to New Mexico, I came up with the idea of a series of articles for the Quill: A monthly guest column in which a member of the congregation would answer the question: Why do I attend church?

I mentioned this idea to Pastor Scott. He liked the idea and immediately drafted me to write the first one. I agreed but then became distracted with the move, with working towards my New Mexico law license and many other matters (including writing this year's Christmas pageant, "The Christmas Time Machine"!)

It is now mid-October and I am only now sitting down to write this guest article. The circumstances of my doing so now are very different than they were in August. A great many changes have occurred at St. Stephen since Jerry and I left. With the decision of our pastor to leave St. Stephen there is grief – but there are also growing pains. There is loss, anxiety over the church's finances, and fear of what the future may bring.

In short, it sounds very much like what it means to be human and alive.

There in a nutshell is why I attend church: I am human and I am alive. Being human, I am subject to all sorts of frailties, anxieties, defects of character, guilt, loneliness... Being alive, I am defined by my relationships with other people – family, friends, community... Relations which I value but which often befuddle me. Then there are the deeper questions which I am led to: Why am I here? What is my relationship with God? What does God expect of me?

Church is where I – as a frail and baffled person – get to learn how to have a relationship with God, with my fellow human beings, and with myself. I receive instruction and inspiration from the Bible and the sermons that our pastor delivers. But I also get to live out these insights with my church family.

St. Francis once said "Preach the Gospel. If necessary, use words."

Exactly. For me, the Church provides a framework in which the Gospel can be translated into action. By praying with my community I become invested in that community. I become both more social and more socially conscientious. By singing with my church, I become not just a better musician, but a better person. I not only learn to become part of something bigger than myself but I also learn to express talents I didn't even know I

possessed. Through you, I become a better version of myself. By seeing you, and hugging you, and serving you, and praying for you, I learn lesson after lesson about humility and humanity.

Most importantly, it is from you I learn about love. I receive love from you and I learn to give love to you because I've opened up to you through common worship and through service to you as my brothers and sisters in Christ. I experience increased self-esteem because I am doing things at and for my church which are esteemable. Most importantly, by being with you, by praying for you, by serving you and by letting myself be prayed for by you, I experience the love of Christ.

Finally, I come to church because I seek God. I seek to explore the mystery of my faith. I know that I may never see God's face. But in church I can see His shadow. I see it everywhere. I see it in the kindness of people. I see it in the steely determination of people who seek justice. I see it in the wine and the bread. I even see it in the Fellowship Hall where we laugh and cry over black forest cake and coffee.

What I come to church for cannot be found on television or at the computer or in a self-help book. None of those things provide opportunities for me to be of service or to share fellowship. God may be everywhere, but my church family is at my church.

Jerry and I have yet to find a church to attend in Santa Fe. It is not easy for two gay men of Jewish background who seek Christ to find a spiritual home. St. Stephen was/is a remarkable place. It was our home and, even from a distance, you remain our church family. But now I know something I didn't know before: finding a church home is a rare and special thing. Don't ever take your church or your church family for granted. Even in rough times, this is where we are called not only to be nurtured but to be of service to God.

I miss St. Stephen terribly. But I know that the Church is bigger than St. Stephen or any single human individual within it. It's bigger than St. Peter's Basilica or the ELCA, or the Orthodox churches, or the Protestant churches. The Church – at least for me – is Jesus Christ once again becoming flesh. Through us! I come to church to be reminded of what an honor and a miracle that is! I come to church so that I may never take that miracle for granted. I hope you never take that miracle for granted either!

With love from your brother in Christ,
Brian

		November 4	November 11	November 18	Thanksgiving Eve November	November 25
Sermon Topic		<i>Now the Feast</i>	Setting 4	<i>Now the Feast</i>	Holden Evening Prayer	Setting 4
Flowers		Francine Bivens	Carsten & Diane Berreth - In Memory of Cooper			Christi Smith - In Memory of Dina Teply
Greeters	9:00 am	Merv & Joan Chose	Carsten & Diane B	Douglas B / Dell S		Peter & Jennifer F
	11:15 am					
Ushers	9:00 am	Merv & Joan Chose	Carsten & Diane B	Douglas B / Dell S		Peter & Jennifer Foley
	11:15 am					
Readers	9:00 am	Barb Carter	Bill Peck	Bonnie Beisell		Emily Boleyn
	11:15 am	Don Cox	Bill Johnsen	Emily Boleyn		Cheryl Ridlon
Cantor	9:00 am	Doug Boleyn	Carey Salisbury	Doug Boleyn		Jacob Lundgren
Assistant Ministers	9:00 am	Judy Wunderlich	Emily Boleyn	Barb Carter		Doug Boleyn
	11:15 am	LaRae Applebee	Don Cox	Bill Johnsen		Audrey Weintz
Commun- ion Assis- tants	9:00 am	Doug Boleyn and Rob Kugler	Barb Carter and Judy Wunderlich	Dee Hanson and Bill Peck		Carey Salisbury and Rob Kugler
	11:15 am	Jill Messecar/ Audrey Weintz	Polly Domine/ Emily Boleyn	Sue Robinson/ Audrey Weintz		Doug Boleyn/ Connie Cook
Commun- ion Music	9:00 am	Alex Lowe / Cody Simmons	Strings Plus	Alan Bonney		OPEN
Offering	9:00 am	Choir	Choir	Choir		Choir
Sound	9:00 am	Sid Toll	Sid Toll	Sid Toll		Sid Toll
	11:15 am	Andrea Domine	Andrea Domine	Andrea Domine		Andrea Domine
Audio- Visual	9:00 am	Emily Boleyn	Abigail Graves	Jacob Lundgren		Abigail Graves
	11:15 am	Tessa Dailey	Tessa Dailey	Tessa Dailey		Tessa Dailey
Prayer Minister	9:00 am	Linda Schmuck	Chris Duncan	Carolyn Hauck		Linda Schmuck
	11:15 am	Sally Lindgren	Bill Johnsen	Eileen Johnsen		Sally Lindgren
Fellowship Café	Snacks	Jessica Toll / Marlys W	Cookies / Jane S	Maryls W /		
	Set-up	Cheryl Ridlon	Bonnie B	Cheryl Ridlon	Bonnie B	Bonnie B
	Host	Cheryl Ridlon	Kathie Todd	Cheryl Ridlon	Kathie T	Kathie Todd
	Clean-up	Bonnie B / Kathie T		Kathie T / Douglas B		
Bread Baker		Chris Duncan	Nadine Hermann	Del Smith		Wendy K. May
Wine	For the month	Carolyn Hauck & Dee Hanson				
Altar Guild	For the month	Open				
Tellers		Jill and Audrey	Polly and Nadine	Coralie and Polly		Sue and Cheryl

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
quilt & backpack Reformation Sunday Tort blessing (kids in 9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contemporar	4:30pm - Praise Pals @ 6pm - TOPS @ 7pm - Worship Team	12pm - Cluster Pastors 6pm - Daisy's @ 6:30pm - Cubscouts @ 7pm - Welsh Society	Halloween 7pm - Bell Choir	9:30am - Quilters @ 5:30pm - Executive 6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @ 7:30pm - CCC Practice	9am - TOPS @ 7pm - N.A. @	3pm - G.A. @
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
All Saints Day Daylight Saving Time 9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contemporar 5pm - Pasta Dinner & 6pm - Youth Worship	4:30pm - Praise Pals @ 6pm - TOPS @	GS Senior Center 12pm - Cluster Pastors 6pm - Daisy's @ 6:30pm - Cubscouts @ 7pm - Welsh Society	8:15am - Bible Study @ 6pm - Dance Team 6pm - Girl Scouts @ 7pm - Bell Choir	6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @ 7:30pm - CCC Practice	9am - TOPS @ 7pm - N.A. @	9:30am - Citizens 3pm - G.A. @
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Veterans Day 9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contemporar 6pm - Youth Worship	Quilt Deadline 12th Veterans Day observed 4:30pm - Praise Pals @ 6pm - TOPS @ 7pm - Worship Team	12pm - Cluster Pastors 6pm - Daisy's @ 6:30pm - Cubscouts @ 7pm - Leadership 7pm - Welsh Society	9:30am - Bible Study @ 7pm - Bell Choir	9:30am - Quilters @ 6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @ 7:30pm - CCC Practice	9am - TOPS @ 7pm - N.A. @	8:30am - Men's 8:30am - Women's 3pm - G.A. @
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9am - Traditional 10:15am - Adult 10:15am - Kidz Klub 11:15am - Contemporar 6pm - Youth Worship	4:30pm - Praise Pals @ 6pm - TOPS @	GS Senior Center 12pm - Cluster Pastors 6pm - Daisy's @ 6:30pm - Cubscouts @ 7pm - Bunco @ in 7pm - Welsh Society 8pm - Pie Social	Pie Social Following Toy Drive begins 8:15am - No Bible 11:30am - Silver Saints 6pm - Girl Scouts @ 7pm - Worship	Thanksgiving Day 6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @ 7:30pm - CCC Practice	Black Friday 9am - TOPS @ 7pm - N.A. @	10am - TOPS @ 3pm - G.A. @
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
10:15am - Adult 6pm - Youth Worship	4:30pm - Praise Pals @ 6pm - TOPS @ 7pm - CCC Practice 7pm - Worship Team	12pm - Cluster Pastors 6pm - Daisy's @ 6:30pm - Cubscouts @ 7pm - Welsh Society	9:30am - Bible Study @ 7pm - Bell Choir	6:45pm - SSLC Choir 7pm - A.A. @ 7:30pm - CCC Practice	9am - TOPS @ 7pm - N.A. @	3pm - G.A. @ 4:30pm - CCC 7pm - CCC Concert

Gladstone Children's Clothing Closet

September - June

Thursdays 3pm - 5pm & Saturdays 10am - 12pm



The GCCC helped over 500 children every year & runs on donations & volunteers. St. Stephen & nearby churches provide volunteers to sort donations, help customers, do laundry & stock shelves. This is a great way to serve the kid's in our own community. Sign-up to volunteer on the clipboards on Sunday, and/or donate gently used children's clothing and new socks & underwear.

How does Moses make his coffee?
...Hebrews it.



Bible Study

Sunday's 10:15am

Studying: Adult Enrichment (Topics Vary)

Wednesday's (1st & 3rd): 9:30am in rotating homes

Studying: The Book of Mark

Contact person: Diane Berreth

Wednesday's (2st & 4rd): 9:30am in the church library

Studying: The Book of Mark

Contact person: Marie Reitz



Who's Who

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Interim Pastor
Minister of Music (9:00am)
Minister of Music (11:15am)
Minister of Youth & Families
Congregation President
Vice President
Executive Assistant
Treasurer
Finance Secretary
Bell Choir Director
Praise Pals/Youth Worship Team
Nursery Attendant
Parish Nurses:

Sue Seifert
Jamie Webster
Kathleen Hollingsworth
Tessa Dailey
Jason Fosberg
Don Cox
Holly Ray
Connie Cook
Polly Domine
Emily Boleyn
Audrey Weintz
Alex Kaster
Marie Reitz, RN (Ret);
Barb Carter, RN (Ret);
Eileen Johnsen, RN (Ret)

A Special Thanks

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

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



Leadership Board

At the meeting we discussed the departure of Pastor Scott and the process of filling in the position with an Interim Pastor. We talked about the transition process and what it will look like moving forward. It will be a process that will begin after the first of the year with a Transition team being formed. We then progressed to the budget process that is still in progress. After finding an interim pastor and looking at the pledges, we will be able to present a budget to the congregation. This process looks to be completed in the first part of November.



PRAISE PALS / YOUTH WORSHIP TEAM

Praise Pals (4yr-4th gr.) 4:30pm Mon.

Youth Worship Team (5th gr. & up) 6:00pm Sun.

Led by Audrey Weintz, Wendy Collins & Lynn Buchanan.

Contact Audrey at 503-957-7537 if interested.

When is medicine first mentioned in the Bible?

...When God gave Moses two tablets.

Why did the hawk sit on the church steeple?

...Because it was a bird of pray.

"And so, God came forth and proclaimed widescreen is the best." (Sony 16:9)

Who was the smartest guy in the Bible?

Abraham. He knew a Lot.

Pie Social

Wednesday Nov. 21
After Thanksgiving Eve Service





Preschool News

Quill for November, 2018

(Oct. 8, 2018)

Downstairs in the preschool rooms, we will soon be very busy getting ready for our Thanksgiving Feasts! We will be cooking up yummy treats, crafting lots of turkeys and caroling songs of the season – “Albuquerque, He’s My Turkey” is a favorite.

Many thanks to everyone who purchased Butter Braids through our Annual Butter Braid Fundraiser!! Fundraisers are a very important piece of the budget puzzle We know that the month of November goes by very quickly so it won’t be long before we are beginning preparations for our Christmas activities, too!!

Our preschool teachers are again working closely with the Gladstone kindergarten teachers to make sure that throughout this school year our 4 year olds are learning those things that will benefit them the most in their transition to kindergarten next fall.

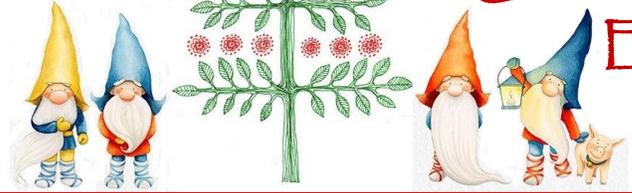
Many thanks to everyone who supports the preschool program through your prayers, encouragement, physical labor, donations and fundraiser participation!!! We are having a great year!

Lori Funk, Preschool Director

December 23

10am

Scandinavian Little Christmas Eve



December 9

Kidz Klubz Christmas party: 10:15am

All Congregational Caroling: 4pm

Pot Luck Christmas party for the Youth Group, CCC & Carolers: 6pm



From the Office

Office hours:

Monday 8-2, Tuesday 8-2, Wednesday 8-1, Thursday 8-2 & Friday 8-2

- Please remember to keep all doors to the outside locked & pull them tight when you leave. Also remember to keep the interior doors locked & not propped open. This helps keep (me) & the church safe.
- Please remember to include the church office and/or President in anything that we might need to know or do to keep the church running smoothly.

Office: sslc@sslcgldstone.org,

President: president@sslcgldstone.org

Vice President: vpresident@sslcgldstone.org

St Stephen's Presents The Christmas Time Machine

An original play by: Brian Napko



Join us on December 16 at 10am Service



The Quill is viewable & downloadable through:

website: sslc@sslcgldstone.org

Facebook: facebook.com/sslcgldstone

email : sslc@sslcgldstone.org

A limited numbers of paper copies of the Quill will be available in the church narthex & fellowship cafe for those of you who do not have access to a computer, social-media or email.

A Special Thanks to the volunteers who help with the Quill & the Bulletin



St. Stephen's Got Talent

Join us for an evening of fun, food & friends!

Dinner & Talent Show! Nov. 4th 5-7pm

Pasta Dinner



Contact Tessa Dailey

if you wish to buy tickets or showcase your talent!

Tickets on Sale Now: \$10 Adult \$5 Student \$0 Kids Under 5

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



November

Gather with Friends

Silver Saints: No Lunch in November
 *Silver Saints' luncheon in December will be at Homewoods on the Willamette 12/19 at 11:30am. Please Sign-up on the clipboards.
Men's Breakfast: Nov. 17th, 8:30am @ TBA
Women's Breakfast: Nov. 17th, 8:30am, @ Rivershore

Prayer Chain

Dee Schmitt, She is a Sew & Sew, She passed out & fell at work • Tom Rogers had a diabetic medical emergency, please pray for his recovery & ongoing issues • Patricia Blodgett for health care issues & affordable living • Allan who has cancer & wishes to get well • Aliya Ariens in foster care • Madelinn Merritt (age 3 1/2) for successful surgery • Simran who battles cancer • Art Hanson for healing & pain relief • Sue Robinson's niece Katey for cancer treatment • Gunter Kunkel for end stage cancer • Sarah Pflingsten • Georgia Rhodes • Alyce & Brian Waverly • Lorraine Zeller • Pastor's grandson, Andre • John Bailey (Avis Bailey's brother) • Kathie McNett • Gerald Puppe • and all military personnel & first responders & their families-especially those in harm's way.

If someone needs to be put on the prayer chain, please contact:
 Carolyn Hauck: 503- 656-6544, Lois Smith: 503-473-1876 Helen Holden: 503-650-3094

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

Music Minister:
 Jamie Webster



Contemporary Worship • 11:15am

Music Minister:
 Kathleen Hollingsworth

Thank you, God!

- Thank you for loving us despite our imperfections
- Thank you for this church family & a Shepard - Chris D
- Thank you for Pastor Scott & all he has done for our family - Carolyn H

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