

Martyr Monthly

November 2022



St Stephen the Martyr

Lutheran Church ELCA
WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:30 am

Sunday School 9:30 am



Pastor's Page



Dear Faith Family,

As I take a look at our newsletter front cover and see the cornucopia of plenty I am reminded of the bounty of blessings that we have in our lives. Some will be sitting down together for a Thanksgiving meal later this month. I share a fun activity that you might “try on” at Thanksgiving or at a different time. It’s called “Fun Facts.”

- I have met Mr. Rogers at O’Hare international and he stopped to visit saying, “Hello Neighbors.”
- I have had an “eagle” while playing golf.
- I am an “Ironman”, or “Iron Pastor” as the shirt says
- ♦ I am an early to bed and early to rise person.

These tidbits only give us a glimpse into the varied stories and experiences that we share as children of God. I know that you, the faith community at SSM have many and varied uplifting faith stories. What are your fun facts? What's your story?

When we gather around the table of thanksgiving in worship, we all come with our own stories, passions and hopes. Most times we don't know what the person next to us brings to the table.

Fun facts make for a good get-to-know-you game at a meal or Thanksgiving, but it's more difficult to know each other's hurts and joys as the body of Christ that gathers at church around a sacred table. One person has lost a job, another celebrates landing their dream job. One celebrates a new birth, while another's grieves the loss of a loved one. One has a new diagnosis of illness and another celebrates a year of being cancer free.

Our stories are varied for certain, but we are united in our mission to be the body of Christ for the world. In joy and in sorrow, in plenty and in want, we join our stories with the story of God. Together in this community we receive forgiveness, give thanks and live in hope.

During Thanksgiving and every day, I am thankful for family and friends. And I am also thankful for this community of faith and for all that YOU bring to our common life together. May your gatherings each day and at Thanksgiving be filled with peace, laughter and hope.

Peace, Pastor Brian

Stewardship

“Around your throne the saints, our brothers and sisters, sing your praise forever.

Their glory fills us with joy, and their communion with us in our church gives us inspiration and strength as we hasten on our pilgrimage of faith, eager to meet them. With their great company and all the angels, we praise your glory as we cry out with one voice: Holy, holy, holy... - *Preface for the feast of All Saints.*

At St. Stephen the Martyr we came together to honor all the saints, some officially recognized and some only known to God. There are many anonymous saints who form part of the great “cloud of witnesses” surrounding us with their faith and courage. We have a history of a Culture of Generosity here at St. Stephen the Martyr that was built by the many members who have loved this church over our history and the members who continue to show their love and support today.

Robert Ellsberg said it best; “Saints are not superhuman beings but those who realized the vocation for which all human beings were created and to which we are ultimately called. There is a path to holiness that lies within our individual circumstances, that engages our own talents and temperaments, that contends with our own strengths and weaknesses, that responds to the needs of our own neighbors and particular moment in history.”

The Feast of All Saints should strengthen and encourage us to continue our Culture of Generosity here at St. Stephen the Martyr as we welcome all, worship God, and serve others.

This month you will be receiving a pledge card. Keep in mind your pledge will allow us to continue our ministries here at St. Stephens the Martyr and help us continue our Culture of Generosity in 2023.

Peace & Thank you,

Jeremy Hanna

email: stewardship@ssmelca.org

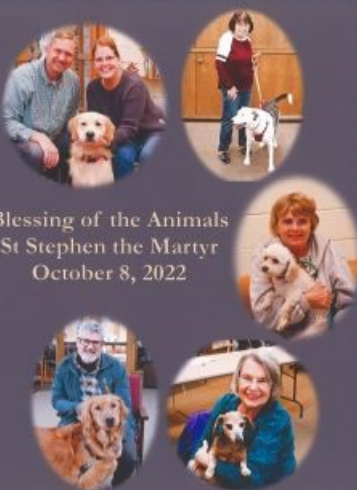


This Happened in October

Trunk or Treat
October 22nd



Blessing of the Animals
St Stephen the Martyr
October 8, 2022





Quilts and School Bags
Blessed October 2nd
and Shipped October 15th



Organ Recital and Dedication October 9th





Meru Partnership News

Our 3 students are attending secondary school and continue to appreciate and need our assistance with their tuition costs. Annually we raise \$2,000 to cover Baraka, Victoria and Pendo's tuition costs. Their next term starts in January.



Please consider supporting our students who have been selected by Mbaaseny to receive this assistance. Mark your funds Mbasseny Tuition and they will be forwarded. Asante sana!



Mt Meru Coffee

Mt. Meru Coffee Project's Holiday Sampler boxes will be available soon. The sampler includes Regular, Peaberry, Hazelnut, Butter Pecan, French Vanilla and Chocolate Raspberry for \$18. Mt. Meru coffees make wonderful hostess or Christmas gifts and your purchase helps to improve the standard of living for farmers in the Meru region. Feel free to talk with Shelly Rosenstock if you have any questions.



SSM WELCA Christmas Fund Raiser



The women of SSM will have a Christmas Cookie/Candy Sale on December 10 and 11th. All proceeds will go to local and international charities. We are asking families in the congregation to donate a batch of their favorite Christmas cookies or candies. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. You do not need to decide what you are making in order to sign up. We

will be collecting your donations on Friday December 9 from 9 to 12 and Saturday December 10 from 9 to 11. Do not package your cookies for sale as we will be creating assortments of different cookies/candies to sell. More details will be coming in November. Thanks in advance for your help.

Greater Milwaukee Synodical Women's Organization

The Annual Convention/Gathering of Women, was held on Saturday, October 8th. The number of attendees, included 7 Board Members, 8 church representatives and 6 other women for a total of 21. Though the attendance was small there was lively discussion of the only topic on the agenda, "would this organization have to fold because of lack of response for a leadership position in this organization of women or would the SWO survive." Many in attendance didn't want to see the SWO disband. There was only 1 person interested in a leadership position at the meeting, Donna Yourell for President. Donna was unanimously voted and sworn in as the President, which is a 2 year term. If you are interesting in more information about the SWO please contact Karen Hoffman for more information.



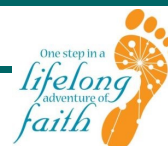
At the gathering, we had a very interesting presentation from the Street Angels representative, Eva. This group of volunteers was founded in 2016 and is based at Ascension Lutheran Church on South 27th Street. The Street Angels is a mobile outreach program that assists our neighbors without homes in Milwaukee County. They travel throughout the county three nights per week, making 50-60 stops with its 2 outreach buses, 156 nights per year, providing hot meals, bag lunches, drinking water, hygiene items, clothing, blankets, tents and HOPE to those who are experiencing street homelessness. Their impact since 2018 has seen 1,500 unique individuals experiencing homelessness. Through the support of basic needs, 411 individuals have been connected to resources resulting in permanent housing. Over 55,000 meals have been served! Street Angels has 3 full-time and 2 part-time staff and are always looking for more volunteer help. You can find out more information and volunteer opportunities by going to their website: StreetAngelsMKE.org.



November 2022



Wednesday, 2nd	9:30am	Men's Bible Study
	5:45pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, 5th	5:00pm	Worship All Saints
Sunday, 6th Daylight Savings	9:30am	Worship All Saints
		Sunday School
Monday, 7th	1:00pm	Monthly Bible Study
Tuesday, 8th	6:30pm	Mega Meeting
Wednesday, 9th	10:15am	Women's Bible Study
	12noon	Loose Ends Lunch
	5:45pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, 10th	10:00am	Quilting - Cut and Sew
Saturday, 12th	5:00pm	Worship - 23rd Weekend after Pentecost
	5:30pm	Campfire and Smores - lower lot
Sunday, 13th	9:30am	Worship - 23rd Weekend after Pentecost
		Sunday School
	10:45am	Confirmation Class



Monday, 14th	6:30pm	Quilting - Layering 
Tuesday, 15th	6:30pm	Council Meeting
Wednesday, 16th	9:30am	Men's Bible Study
	5:45pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, 19th	5:00pm	Worship Christ the King
Sunday, 20th	9:30am	Worship Christ the King
		Sunday School
Thursday, 24th	Thanksgiving Office Closed 	
Friday, 25th		
Saturday, 26th	5:00pm	Worship First Weekend of Advent
Sunday, 27th	9:30am	Worship First Weekend of Advent
		Sunday School
	10:45am	Confirmation Class

Pastor will be at a Continuing Education event from November 14th to the 20th. Contact the office for information on pastors who will be covering in case of a pastoral emergency.

**Friday
November 11th**



**Thursday
November 24th**





Christian Education

We are approaching a very exciting and busy time of year. However, there is still time to spend an hour or so studying the Bible with your sisters and brothers at SSM.

Sunday School is having a wonderful year. Students begin in 9:30 worship with their family and after the Children's Message they break off into their classes where they hear more about the same Bible messages that the adults are hearing in church. It is not too late to sign up your kids, grandchildren or any other children you know. On October 16th three third graders received Bibles, presented by their parents.

The Men's Bible Study continues to look at the book of Hebrews. They meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 9:30am both live and on zoom. Contact Kipp Zimmermann at kippzee@gmail.com for zoom information.

Women's Bible Study will be wrapping up their study on Worship and will begin looking at the epistles not written by Paul soon. They meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 10:15am in person or via zoom. Contact Bonnie Zimmermann at bonniezimmermann426@gmail.com for zoom information.

On the 1st Monday of each month at 1pm a group looking at growing older and wiser using the scriptures as a guide meets around the fireplace.

On October 30th Mya Kling, Jonah Miller and Vincent Ortega were confirmed. Congratulations to our confirmands on all of their hard work. Look for pictures next month. The current confirmation class meets twice a month on Sunday morning after worship.

These are exciting times. Please consider making yourself part of them. If you are interested in joining a Bible Study but none of the current times work for you contact Bonnie Zimmermann. We would be happy to add more opportunities.



Fellowship

Mark your calendars for 5:30pm on November 12th for a good old fashioned bonfire complete with smores, hot chocolate and campfire songs. Join your friends in the St. Stephen lower parking lot for a night of fun. Stop by at 5:30pm or following the 5:00pm service. We plan on roasting marshmallows and singing until 7:00pm. This will be a great opportunity to catch up with your friends who attend the other service and to enjoy smores' made by our Sunday School



Aluminum Can Deadline



Cold weather, snow and ice are soon here making it difficult to transport and sell cans at the salvage yard. So please note that after November 15th bags of cans cannot be accepted at church. It is too difficult to sell cans at the salvage center, and there is no room in the church garage to store them through the winter. If you have cans to donate, bring them to the church garage in the lower parking lot by November 15th. Crushed or folded up cans are preferred. Thank you! Bob Rasmussen, Can coordinator.

New Member Orientation



Are you a newcomer to St. Stephen the Martyr? If you would like to find out more, get connected, deepen your ties, or if you are considering membership, please join us following the 9:30am worship service on Sunday, November 6 for a newcomer orientation. Please email Pastor Brian Hooper (pastorbrianhooper@gmail.com) if you can attend.

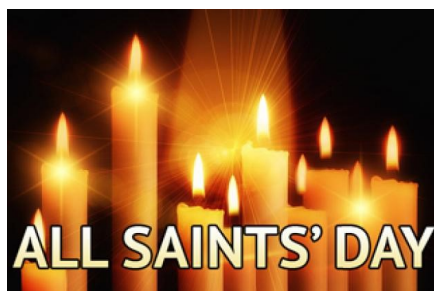
Music and Worship



On November 5th and 6th, we will commemorate All Saints Day, where we will light candles in memory of the saints who have come before us.

The Music & Worship team is in the early stages of investigating changes to our sound system. In recent months, we have experienced problems with microphones not working correctly, as well as issues with balancing sound between the sanctuary, gathering space, and our online worship. A small group is meeting with businesses that provide sound systems to learn more about how we might fix, improve, update, or possibly replace our current system, and the financial costs of those various options. More information will be available in the coming weeks. If you would like to participate in this process, contact Denise Sanders.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on volunteering or participating in any music and worship activities, contact Denise Sanders.



News From Pastor Barsnick in Germany

Pastor Hartmut Barsnick is in poor health so he will no longer be making trips to the USA or Tanzania. He continues his fund-raising work for Tanzania on the phone and with letters. His latest letter included this information:

A reliable, trustworthy way of participating in our ministry in Tanzania is this: Make your donation check, big or small, payable to Wellington Park Lutheran Church earmarked Tanzania or Barsnick and send it to

Wellington Park Lutheran Church
7017 W. Medford Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53218

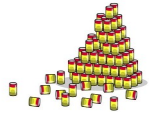


A person at Wellington Park then is in charge of forwarding the funds to the effort.

Youth and Family



Our Youth & Family Committee is teaming up with Human Concerns for a food drive challenge this month to help stock the shelves at Bay View Community Center! Sunday School students (and congregation members!) are asked to bring in the following items for donation to build a FOOD PANTRY TOWER:



- Peanut Butter
- Canned meat (like chicken or tuna)
- Personal Hygiene Items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, bath products)
- Toilet Paper, Dish Soap, Laundry Soap

ANY nonperishable food items

As food items are brought in we will BUILD A TOWER with them! Keep your eyes out in the narthex for our amazing FOOD PANTRY TOWER. Add your item to the pile and watch as it grows all month long! How high can we go SSM?!?

Human Concerns



Thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to the collection for the food pantries at the Organ Recital and Dedication, \$432 was collected and will be forwarded. Lunches were delivered on October 21st to Tippecanoe's food ministry. This is an ongoing ministry with which the Human Concern words periodically.

Watch soon for the annual Bay View Community Center Christmas Gift Project. The information should be available soon so that you can select the gifts you want to provide.



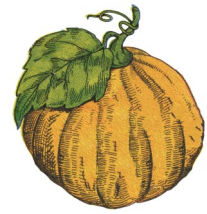
Thrivent Members - A Reminder

Please be reminded that it is not necessary to wait for the end of a calendar year to donate your Choice Dollars to SSM or another charity of your choice. In these times it is so necessary to help with your Choice Dollars as soon as you can. The need is out there.



NOVEMBER

BIRTHDAYS



Susan Buchholz

Diane Moraza

Heidi Hennessy

Kurt Kreiter

Cindy Nettles

Taylor Drover

Dick Kroll

Emily Walker

Cody Burgmaier

Lilly Revers

Alexandra Covert

Duncan Sanders

Ashley Herman

Lindsay Herman

Taylor Herman

Peter Stasiewski

Amy Lentz

Mason Resterhouse

Emily Raasch

Josi Rafalski

Jackie Schultz

Paul Bauman

Bob Billman

Amy Stuedemann

03 Karen Hoffman

03 Ruth Urdahl

04 Nick Winter

05 Amanda Leppien

05 Kaylee Gray

06 Catherine Devries

06 Susan Mildren

06 Lara Nehring

08 Sherryl Walker

08 Mya Kling

09 Sandy Peterson

09 Courtney Farrell

11 Diana Gastrau

11 Nola Cooper

11 Grayson Kunesch

11 Jenna Mayer

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Loose Ends Lunch

On Wednesday, November 9th, the ladies will meet for lunch at Applebee's Restaurant, 7135 S. 13th Street, Oak Creek. All interested ladies please contact Karen Hoffman 414-421-9249 ASAP so we have a count for our reservation. Thank you.



Council Minutes October 15, 2022

Council Retreat Leader: Rev. Tom Smith

- 1- Community Outreach and Connection - Council developed action plans on how to more fully communicate; to investigate policies on property usage for the community; further use our existing groups to reach out to the community using the quilting program as an example.
- 2 – Reconciling in Christ – The council created an action plan on the implementation of RIC at St. Stephen the Martyr

Council Meeting:

Called to order by Jason Covert at 11:23 am

September minutes approval awaiting corrections

Land lease increased on the tower, awaiting town approval on increase in height

Financial Reports approved

Covid 19 safety protocols to remain the same

Equipping the Saints - Denise Sanders is chairing the committee to introduce this to the congregation.

Sound system investigation still in progress.

Newsletter date: 11/18/22

Committee Reports

Youth and Family – planning an Advent potluck.

Fellowship – Looking to have a bonfire in the lower parking lot with smores, songs around the fire. Second Saturday of November

Music and Worship – Recital went well. At All Saints using the individual candles and cross boxes

Stewardship – November 13th presentation and return of pledge cards November 20.

Human Concerns – Coat drive for Bay View is in progress. They need coats and sweatshirt jacks only. Christmas gifts for Bay View; information will be coming soon. Collecting food, toiletries TP, tooth paste, and tooth brushes.

Finance – counter reports don't always agree with the ushers. They are working to create greater consistency

Education – Men's, Women's, and Monday bible studies are in place. Sunday School is doing very well

Meeting Adjourned

Prayer led by Pastor Hooper

Respectfully submitted, Kipp W. Zimmermann, Secretary



OFFICE HOURS

9:00-2:00 M-Th

9:00-12:00 F



SSM STAFF

Brian Hooper, Pastor

pastorbrianhooper@gmail.com

Tabatha Moldenhauer, Music Director

Mark Breutzmann, Saturday Musician

Jim Hennessy, Church Maintenance

Bonnie Zimmermann, Ministry Assistant

SSM Website: www.ssmelca.org

Email: office@ssmelca.org

Phone: 414-421-3543

Sunday School email: sundayschool@ssmelca.org

WORSHIP AT SSM

SATURDAY AT 5:00 PM

SUNDAY AT 9:30 AM*

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM

***SUNDAY SERVICE IS IN**

PERSON AND STREAMED VIA

ZOOM, FOR ZOOM

INFORMATION CONTACT THE

CHURCH OFFICE

St Stephen the Martyr ELCA

6101 S. 51st Street

Greendale WI 53129

(414) 421-3543



November 2022 Martyr Monthly



Welcome to St. Stephen the Martyr

Welcoming all, Worshiping God, Serving others