

# MARTYR MONTHLY



## APRIL 2025

**WORSHIP AT SSM**  
**SATURDAY AT 5:00PM**  
**SUNDAY AT 9:30AM\***  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM**

**WEDNESDAYS IN LENT - HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER AT 6:30PM APRIL 2, 9**  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY AT GREENDALE COMMUNITY CHURCH 6:00PM**  
**GOOD FRIDAY**

**CROSS WALK BEGINNING AT ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY AT 2:00PM**  
**ECUMENICAL SERVICE AT ST ALPHONSUS AT 3:00PM**  
**TENEBRAE AT SSM AT 6:30PM\***  
**EASTER PRAYER GARDEN WORSHIP AT 7:00AM**  
**EASTER WORSHIP AT 9:30AM\***

*\*INDICATES WORSHIP SERVICES STREAMED ON ZOOM,  
FOR ZOOM INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.*

# Pastor's Page



Dear SSM Faith Community,

The month of April this year is somewhat of a liturgical transition month. We are travelling through the wilderness of Lent, but signs of spring and Easter are on the horizon.

As we continue through Lent we move further into the deep of the journey to the cross, hearing the stories that speak of Jesus' power and glory. We remember how he went about healing the sick, feeding the hungry, and telling the people of the kingdom of God that was always closer.

During this month, midweek worship takes place on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm, and we share some reflections on Martin Luther's Small Catechism.

When the season of Lent ends, we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday weekend. We then enter the great Three Days (Triduum) which are the very heart of our community. Though they spread over three days, they are one liturgy in three parts. Think of them as your yearly spiritual retreat.

On Maundy Thursday, we remember Jesus' mandate to humbly serve our neighbors and the whole world. In a meal, we remember his sacrifice given for us. This year we will worship with our neighbors at Greendale Community Church. Worship will be at 6pm. The service will give a nod to the Passover Haggadah, but is NOT a Haggadah. There will be a tasting of the Passover foods...Matzoh, charosets, horseradish, and lamb

There will be a sign-up at SSM to help to know how many people will attend. A free will offering will be taken to help offset the cost of the meal. Most likely around \$8-\$10. The meal is a full meal that consists of a soup course, a salad course, a hot meat course, and dessert. We will need some volunteers to help in meal preparation and a volunteer sign up will be posted. The entire evening will be approximately two hours.

On Good Friday we meditate on Jesus' passion and death, we pray for everybody and everything, and we adore the cross that paradoxically gives life. There will be a Cross walk that starts at 2pm at St. Thomas of Canterbury and an ecumenical service at St. Alphonsus at 3pm. A Tenebrae service will be at 6:30pm at SSM.

And then Saturday, the Great Vigil of Easter at 5pm: There will be fire; word and silence; water, bread and wine; spring flowers and organ. This worship is both a celebration and a renewal of faith! Our service begins outside, around a new fire, a symbol that announces the new creation in Christ's death and resurrection. We carry a large candle into the darkened church, even as a pillar of fire led the Israelites to freedom.

## Pastor's Page Continued

On Easter, we bask in the joy of Jesus resurrection. Easter sunrise service is at 7am in the Prayer Garden and 9:30am in the church sanctuary. And you can enjoy Easter breakfast at 8:15am.

See you soon. Peace, Pastor Brian

**Holden Evening Prayer**  
Wednesdays during Lent at 6:30pm  
April 2 with Bishop Erickson and April 9



### Passion/Palm Weekend

Saturday, April 12 at 5:00pm

Sunday, April 13, 9:30am

### Maundy Thursday - April 17

At the Greendale Community Church 6:00pm  
(6015 Clover Ln, Greendale, WI 53129)

### Good Friday - April 18

Cross Walk beg. at St. Thomas of Canterbury 2:00pm

Ecumenical service at St. Alphonsus 3:00pm

Tenebrae 6:30pm

### Easter Vigil - April 19 5:00pm

### Easter Sunday - April 20

Sunrise Prayer Garden Worship 7:00am

Easter Worship - 9:30am

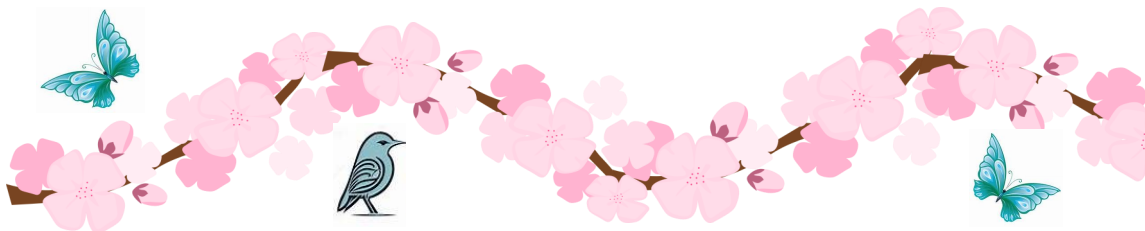
## Human Concerns

**Save the Date!** Unity Lutheran Church will be holding their annual plant sale on Saturday, May 17th from 9:00 a.m. until 12 p.m. The free-will offering sale includes house plants, perennials, annuals and vegetable plants. If there are any plants left, they will be on sale again on Tuesday, May 20th from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. The plant sale is one of several fundraisers Unity holds throughout the year to help support their food ministries. Please consider supporting the plant sale by donating or purchasing plants. More information will be provided in the May Martyr Monthly. **Note:** It is best to wait until temperatures consistently stay above 50 degrees for at least five days before starting your spring yard cleanup, as this allows beneficial insects to emerge from their winter hiding places in the dead plant material and protects the ecosystem in your yard. Thank you.



We will be collecting non-perishable, non-expired food items for the food pantry at Unity Lutheran Church during the month of April. Monetary donations of any amount also help when the food pantry needs to purchase items. Checks can be made payable to *St.*

*Stephen the Martyr* and placed in the offering. Be sure to indicate that your donation is for *Food Ministries*. Thank you!







# **SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025**

## **4:00 PM**

### **ORGAN RECITAL**

The congregation welcomes the public to this recital presented by David Jonies, Director of Music and Organist at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago.

A native of Germany, he holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Hochschule für Musik in Würzburg and the Performer's Certificate from the Royal Academy of Music in London. His teachers have included James O'Donnell, David Titterington, Günther Kaunzinger, and Gerhard Weinberger.

Described as a "gem" (The American Organist) and an "impeccable" performer (Bonner Generalanzeiger), David enjoys an excellent reputation among his colleagues as a concert organist and church musician. Known for his wide range of repertoire, David was awarded the 1st prize at the 1999 Landau International Organ Competition.

International concert appearances include Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, Westminster Abbey and the London Handel Festival in the U. K., the Pusan Bach Festival in South Korea, the Cathedral at Budejovice in the Czech Republic, the Bluvall Music Festival and the Cathedrals of Bamberg, Mainz, Passau and Trier in Germany.

In the United States, he has performed at Chicago's Orchestra Hall with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, at Marcus Center with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, at the Cathedrals of Seattle, Helena, Pittsburgh, Hartford, Sioux City, and Houston, and recitals and workshops for American Guild of Organists.

## **St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church**

**6101 S 51st St.  
Greendale, WI**

**Free and Open to the  
Public**



**414-421-3543  
ssmelca.org  
office@ssmelca.org**

**FREE WILL DONATIONS TO  
SUPPORT LOCAL FOOD  
PANTRIES WILL BE TAKEN  
AT THE DOOR**

# Stewardship



*“I Love to tell the Story; Will be my theme in glory;  
To tell the old old story; of Jesus and His love.”*

Perhaps you noticed that the primary text of the Bible is the compilation of the stories of God’s interaction with the world. In the Biblical sense, the very definition of history is the stories of God’s interaction with the world. Historical fact (time, place, sequence) had little importance. What really mattered to the writers was that we see God as an interested party in the affairs of the people that he loves. Primary for the church is the central event of the incarnation of Christ – the in-personal interaction of God in the life of the world.



We just celebrated Christmas and heard again the stories of the visitation of Gabriel to Mary; the journey to Bethlehem; the angels’ announcement to the shepherds. We heard the story of Joseph’s confusion and Gabriel’s announcement to Joseph that God was at work in Mary’s pregnancy. We heard the story of the Magi’s visitation as the representatives of the gentile world before God. All of these stories now lead us into the greatest story – the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus for the life of the world.

These stories have drawn millions to faith and relationship with God and with each other. Now it is our turn – to tell the story that is. To tell the stories of how God has come to each of us through those who interacted with our lives. We are stewards of these stories – The Gospel – of Jesus and his love. What you have to offer is the story of how that love has carried you through life, especially how St. Stephen the Martyr has been of help and support throughout the events of your life. Stewardship is about the use of your life and experience of the love of God to make a difference in the lives of those around you. Won’t you share that gift with the world?

In Jesus Name, Kipp W Zimmermann, Stewardship Chair

# Church Wide Rummage Sale



The 2025 SSM Church rummage will take place on **Friday April 4th and Saturday April 5th**. This will include a brat fry and lemonade stand on Saturday. All proceeds from this event will be split between SSM and charity. People wishing to donate

items for sale can drop them off at the following times:

30 minutes before or after the Saturday March 29th service

30 minutes before or after the Sunday March 30th service

Wednesday, April 2nd from 3-5 and Thursday, April 3rd from 9-noon.

If you need help moving some larger items reach out to one of the Lorin Schuchardt and we can try to arrange pick-up.

If you want your donated items returned to you following the event they will need to be picked up between 3 and 4 p.m. on Saturday April 5th. All remaining items will be donated. In order to make this event a success we will need volunteers to set up on Thursday April 3rd and on the days of the event. Look for sign-up sheets on the bulletin board at Church. Thanks to everyone for your donations and helping out at this event. Make sure you stop by for some great spring deals and spread the word to your friends, family and co-workers.

## Recycling of Cans Begins

Beginning April 1st, we will again accept aluminum cans that will be sold at the salvage yard for cash. Money earned will be given to local food pantries. Please bring your can bags to the pedestrian door of our church garage. They will be stored in the garage until a car full has been collected to take in for sale. Remember that only beer, soda, and energy drink cans can be accepted. The salvage yard will not buy aluminum foil, bakery "tins", or odd aluminum scrap. Finally, we are pleased to announce that an anonymous donor will match all money earned this year from can sales. This generous offer will double the money used to fight hunger. So bring in those cans. Bob and Karen Rasmussen - Can Coordinators





# April

**2025**



<b>Tuesday, 4/1</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Mega Meeting
<b>Wednesday, 4/2</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Men's Bible Study
	<b>5:30pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>6:30pm</b>	Worship - Holden Evening Prayer with Bishop Erickson
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday, 4/3</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Confirmation Class
<b>Friday, 4/4</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	Church Rummage Sale - until 2:00pm
<b><i>5th Weekend of Lent</i></b>		
<b>Saturday, 4/5</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	Church Rummage Sale - until 3:00pm
	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship
<b>Sunday, 4/6</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship
		Sunday School
	<b>10:45am</b>	"By Heart" Book Discussion
		Coffee Hour
<b>Tuesday, 4/8</b>	<b>6:30pm</b>	Council Meeting
<b>Wednesday, 4/9</b>	<b>10:45am</b>	Women's Bible Study
	<b>12 noon</b>	Loose Ends Lunch
	<b>5:30pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>6:30pm</b>	Worship - Holden Evening Prayer
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday, 4/10</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Quilting - Cut & Sew - until 3:00pm
<b><i>Passion of Our Lord/Palm Weekend</i></b>		
<b>Saturday, 4/12</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship
<b>Sunday, 4/13</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship
		Sunday School

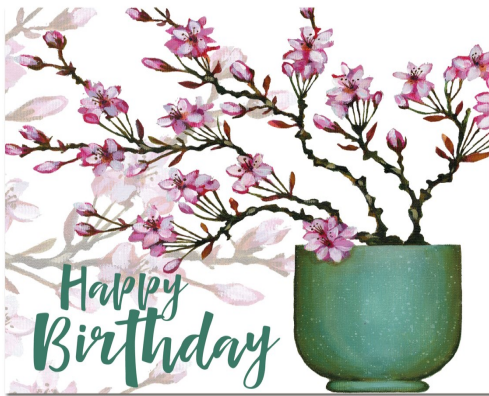


<b>Wednesday, 4/16</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Men's Bible Study
	<b>5:45pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir rehearsal
<b><i>Holy Week</i></b>		
<b>Thursday, 4/17</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	Maundy Thursday Worship at Greendale Community Church
<b>Friday, 4/18</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>	Cross Walk beginning at St. Thomas of Canterbury
	<b>3:00pm</b>	Ecumenical Worship at St. Alphonsus
	<b>6:30pm</b>	Tenebrae Worship at SSM
<b><i>Resurrection of Our Lord</i></b>		
<b>Saturday, 4/19</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	Easter Vigil
<b>Sunday, 4/20</b>	<b>7:00am</b>	Prayer Garden Worship
	<b>8:15am</b>	Easter Breakfast
	<b>9:30am</b>	Easter Worship
<b>Monday, 4/21</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Quilting - Layering - until 3:00pm
<b><i>2nd Weekend of Easter</i></b>		
<b>Saturday, 4/26</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	Worship
<b>Sunday, 4/27</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Worship
		Sunday School
<b>Wednesday, 4/30</b>	<b>5:45pm</b>	Handbell Rehearsal
	<b>7:00pm</b>	Choir Practice

## Loose Ends Lunch



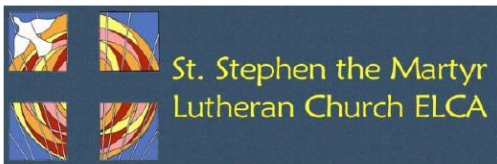
The April Loose Ends Lunch will be held at the Point After Pub & Grill on Wednesday, April 9th at noon. The Point After is located at 7101 S 76th Street at Rawson Ave. Please let Karen Hoffman know if you plan to attend.



## In April



Nancy Schneider	01	Abi Dollar	12
Shelley Burns	01	Fred Ankebrant	14
Kurt Koeff	01	Kyle Gorecki	15
Mara Dean	01	Chelsea Gagliano	18
Julaine Sebastian	02	Charlie Krauske	18
LaVerne Morgan	04	Ben Hooper	18
David Simley	05	Molly Myszkowski	19
Carolyn Kahl	05	Al Behling	20
Judy Lehman	05	Maggy Hanna	20
Reese Ceku	05	Dennis Lucchesi	21
Vance Ceku	05	Philip Morgan	22
Zola Reinholz	05	David Salas	22
Michael Onsager	06	Bob Gleason	23
Hans Tanke	06	Emily Reinholz	23
Gordon Flohr	08	Jacob Malinowski	23
Karen Miller	11	Kristy Knipple	24
Andrew Wassweiler	11	Donna Carver	25
Chrissy Zoske	11	Dick Rutzen	25
Jerry Seroka	12	Bonnie Zimmermann	26
Sue Stasiewski	12	Andy Stockland	26
		Tom Payne	28
		Andrea Woerpel	28
		Terri Larson	29
		Richard Sontvedt	30
		Jason Covert	30



### EASTER BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER APRIL 1, 2025

Come dine with your neighbors for a good cause at Billy Sims BBQ on Tuesday April 1, 2025. 10% of all sales will go to St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church to support their Easter Breakfast.

#### Enjoy the best BBQ in the area!

##### Menu includes:

- Mac N Cheese
- Nachos
- Pulled Pork
- BBQ chicken
- Brisket
- Parfaits



7358 W. Rawson Ave.  
Franklin, WI 53132

## Easter Breakfast

Join your fellow Easter Worshipers between the Prayer Garden Service and the 9:30am Service on Easter Breakfast at 8:15am in the Fellowship Hall. This is a wonderful opportunity to share the Easter joy with friends and loved ones. Please sign up to let the planners know about how many people to expect (you are welcome even if you don't sign up in advance). Volunteers are also needed. All sign up sheets are on the bulletin board between the offices - or call the office to sign up to attend or volunteer.

## Good Gifts



Thank you to all who purchased the Good Gifts Christmas Ornaments or made a donation to the Good Gifts drive this past Christmas season. We raised \$1,337. As has been the practice in the

past, the Sunday School children looked at the Good Gifts catalog and decided exactly where the funds should go. Here is what they selected:

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 3 Chicks          | 3 Fruit tree seedlings                  |
| 3 Roosters        | 3 Gardening tools and seeds             |
| 3 Goats           | 1 Scholarship to support a woman leader |
| 3 Shares in a cow | 3 Sunday School start up kits           |
| 3 Piglets         | 2 Farmers field school for a woman      |
| 3 Honeybees       | 3 School fees and uniform for a girl    |
| 3 Water filters   | 3 School supplies for a child           |

Again, thank you to you all.

*Martyr Monthly—St. Stephen the Martyr*



# Pics



**Baptism of Felix and Zola  
Reinholz, February 23rd**



**Confirmation Retreat, March 7-9**







## Children's Christian Theatre March 15



## Confirmation Class Led Worship, March 16





# Council Minutes, February 8

Present: Denise Sanders, Lorin Schuchardt, Jason Covert, Sandy Wesolowski, Kipp Zimmermann, Eric Sanders, Jane Miller, Keri Whitmore, Pastor Brian Hooper, Shelly Rosenstock, Alex Dollar, Carol Jackett, Excused: Kristy Knipple

The meeting was called to order by Denise Sanders at 11:05 am.

January Council Minutes. After reviewing the January minutes a motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written.

**Financial Reports:** Jane – collected a sum of \$26,598 in January. The number is large for the month because some members paid their full pledge amount for the year in January. Jason – January numbers are balanced. Working on getting familiar with the reports and cadence for check payments. A motion was made and seconded to approve the financial reports.

## **Pastor Brian's Report:**

The confirmation class made a visit to the Sikh Temple on Feb. 1. Met with Pam Young and welcomed her as a new congregation member on 1/25. Coordinated “Community Service for Peace and Unity” on 1/19. Attended Wild Church Synod meeting on 1/22. Two baptisms (Felix and Zola) scheduled for 2/23. Bonnie Zimmermann and Pastor Brian will be attending “Together in Mission” event on 2/15. Neuroscience presentation scheduled for after worship on 2/16. A Black History event is planned at SSM on 2/25.

**Upcoming events:** The SSM 60th anniversary is coming up and we need to plan what we want to do. A suggestion is to have congregation members answer the question “what matters to me as a member of SSM” and then share their stories with the congregation. Past Pastors of SSM should be invited. The goals for 2025 need to be discussed at our next meeting.

Pastor Brian, Bonnie Zimmermann and Denise Sanders will meet to begin planning coverage for Pastor Brian's sabbatical leave. If anyone is interested in doing a sermon let Pastor Brian, Bonnie or Denise know.

We need to think about delegates for the synod assembly May 30-31 at the Brookfield Conference Center. Anyone interested notify Pastor Brian or Denise Sanders.

# Council Minutes, continued

## Committee Reports:

Human Concerns – There has been a great response and support for all activities during 2024. February donations will benefit the Bay View Community Center.

Music and Worship – Looking at combining Maundy Thursday with other churches

Stewardship- Looking at using storytelling to answer the question “What is it about SSM and how has it impacted your life/faith?”. Members can then share their story during worship services.

Christian Education –nothing to report

Evangelism – no report

Fellowship – Planning meeting for the rummage sale went well. It will be held on a Friday- Saturday indoors in April. Drop off for donations on Wed. - Fri. Volunteers are needed for set up. Children’s clothes are the best sellers. Refreshments will be served. Lorin will get a license if one is needed. All donations and proceeds will be divided half for charity and half for the church. Those donating will not receive anything in return for their contributions.

Finance – nothing new beyond completing the 2025 budget.

Youth and Family – No report. Opportunities at Lutherdale are available in the next months.

Devotion – Pastor Brian gave a devotion and closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

The next meeting is Tuesday, March 11, at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Jackett, Secretary



## OFFICE HOURS

9:00-2:00 Mon - Th

9:00-12:00 Fri

## SSM STAFF

Brian Hooper, Pastor

[pastorbrianhooper@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbrianhooper@gmail.com)

Tabitha Moldenhauer, Music Director

Mark Breutzmann, Saturday Musician

Jim Hennessy, Church Maintenance

Bonnie Zimmermann, Ministry  
Assistant

SSM Website: [www.ssmelca.org](http://www.ssmelca.org)

Facebook:

[https://m.facebook.com/  
SSMELCA/](https://m.facebook.com/SSMELCA/)

Email: [office@ssmelca.org](mailto:office@ssmelca.org)

Phone: 414-421-3543

**WORSHIP AT SSM**

**SATURDAY AT 5:00PM**

**SUNDAY AT 9:30AM\***

**SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM**

**HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER**

**WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT**

**APRIL 2, 9 AT 6:30PM\***

**GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE AT 6:30PM\***

**EASTER PRAYER GARDEN WORSHIP AT  
7:00AM**

**EASTER WORSHIP AT 9:30AM\***

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CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.***



## St Stephen the Martyr ELCA

6101 S. 51st Street

Greendale WI 53129

(414) 421-3543

**APRIL 2025**



*Welcoming all, Worshiping God, Serving others*