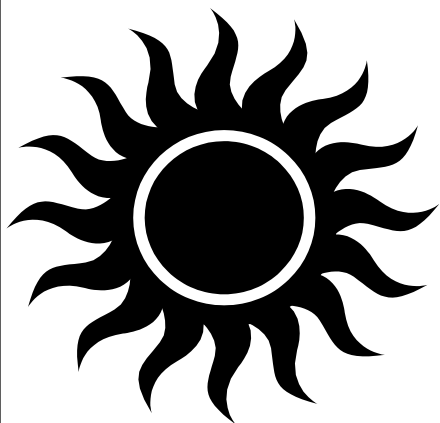


*St. Stephen's Lutheran Church*



Sun

Celebrating 59  
Years of Ministry  
June 2013

SUMMER WORSHIP - ONE SERVICE  
AT 9:30 am    MAY 26 — SEPT. 1

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**St. Stephen's 60th Anniversary Celebration is Coming!!!**

Reformation Sunday, October 27th, 2013

In order to thank God for the blessing of being in ministry together since 1953, we will celebrate this significant anniversary in several ways. A committee is being formed to plan the celebrations. We need anyone who can help. Please contact Lisa Johnson, Sheila Buswell or Don Smawley if you can help with the plans.

It is also time for a new Picture Directory for our church. Please contact Leslie in the church office if you can help organize this fun event.

# ***St. Stephen's Lutheran Church***

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

2500 Soquel Avenue, Santa Cruz, California 95062

Phone—831-476-4700 — Fax—831-476-3918

[www..ststephenslutheran.org](http://www.ststephenslutheran.org)

email—[office@ststephenslutheran.org](mailto:office@ststephenslutheran.org)

Rev. James P. Lapp, Pastor

- Ministers: The Entire Congregation
- Church Council: Pres. — David Balogh V. P. — Joel Hurttgam  
Treasurer— Mark Linder Secretary—Marta Duplantier,  
Robert Bartee, Kim Cappelloni, Lisa Johnson,  
Barbara Rice, and Rebecca Wickham
- Directors of Music: Suzanne Duval & Gary Roberts
- Pre-School Director: Kathy Berens
- Custodian: John Hopping
- Children's Minister: Dusty Gipson
- Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp
- Office Hours: Mon.—Thurs. 8:30am—2:30pm
- Pastor's Office Hours—Wed. & Thurs. 10:00 am –1:00 pm
- Pastor's Cell Phone: 325-9095 (Call Pastor between 9 am and 5 pm, M-Thurs.  
or anytime for emergencies. Please only give to church members)

## MISSION STATEMENT

**St. Stephen's is a welcoming, healing community**  
who worship God in Christ,  
nurture people growing in faith,  
serve others with acceptance and love,  
and invite people to share the joy of the Spirit.

# From Pastor Jim

The cover article for the January 2013 issue of  
"The Lutheran" is entitled - The Shrinking Church. The author



## June Happenings

### Sister Parish Benefit

June 1 @ 3:00 Bargettos Winery

### Healing Phase Sessions

June 1 & 15 9:00—11:30

w/ Pr. Beck (new times)

### Problem Solving - Pr. Beck

June 29 8:30—1:30

### Chapel with the Pre-Schoolers

Wednesdays at 10:00

### Knitting

Meets every Thurs at 6:45 pm

### PreSchool Open House

June 12 & 26 11:00—12:30

### MM/RR Circle Luncheon

Thurs. June 13 @ noon

### Church Council

Monday, June 17 at 7:00 pm

### Child Development Center Bd.

Monday, June 3 at 7:00 pm

### Property Work Day

June 22, 9—noon

### Habitat for Humanity Lunches

Thursday, June 27 @ 10:30

## Council Highlights

1. Devotions took the form of St. Ignatius Examen of Consciousness as we reflected on ways we encountered God in our church and our lives over the past month.
2. We will receive a new member, Tracy Roberts, as a transfer from Messiah Lutheran, Santa Cruz.
3. Pastor Jim is working with Hope Coronado towards her confirmation and quinceanera. This will be a first for St. Stephen's but hopefully not the last and will take place in September.
4. Elevation Church, a small congregation that has been meeting at the Christian Life Center on Mission St. is looking for a new home on Sunday nights. After some discussion, council agreed to send materials to their pastor and see if it might be something we could accommodate.
5. We have a \$27,000 deficit after April as regular giving is down and expenses remain the same.
6. There has been some discussion about what to do with the bell tower during the two years before it is permanently removed to make way for the new entrance.
7. The neighborhood meeting for our St. Stephen's Senior Housing development was held on May 28. Meetings with our neighbor Chris Peoples, county planning director Kathy Previsich and Supervisor John Leopold have gone very well.
8. COPA has hired a new lead organizer, Tim McManus. Originally from Boston he is coming from Valley Interfaith Project in Phoenix, AZ.



# June Birthdays

- |      |                  |      |               |
|------|------------------|------|---------------|
| 6-1  | J.J. Anderson    | 6-16 | Donald Daves  |
| 6-1  | Jim Hanson       | 6-16 | Tara McMilin  |
| 6-2  | Nancy Daves      | 6-17 | Truett Bobo   |
| 6-5  | Lauren Pond      | 6-18 | Maria Mata    |
| 6-6  | Joseph Ronning   | 6-19 | Kim Brouse    |
| 6-8  | Steve Young      | 6-20 | Abigail Robe  |
| 6-10 | Glenn Johnson    | 6-21 | Jenna Mabry   |
| 6-10 | Kirk McMilin     | 6-26 | Bonnie Bell   |
| 6-10 | Enzo Salandro    | 6-29 | Michael Nunes |
| 6-12 | Ruth Mitchell    | 6-30 | Emmanuel      |
| 6-12 | Madeline Mouw    |      | Perez- Flores |
| 6-14 | Kent Orthner     | 6-30 | Susan Gross   |
| 6-14 | Stephanie Dawson |      |               |



## Anniversaries

- |      |                       |
|------|-----------------------|
| 6-3  | Roy & Mary Jane Hoch  |
| 6-4  | Greg & Ruth Weber     |
| 6-11 | Kirk & Tara McMilin   |
| 6-22 | John & Lorie Coronado |
| 6-23 | Chris & Tasha Turzo   |

## Prayer Concerns:

**Short Term:** Gordon Klett, Shelby, Brian & Nathaniel Brouse, Carla & Chris Brown, Joel & Maryann, Joyce, Steve, Bonnie, Crystal, Claudia, Tupelo, Bradford, Jamie, Tasha Turzo, Opa Meerman, Kaitlin Cahill, Evan & Mrs. Milnes, Hey-sel, Larry Knapp, Lil & Sal Timpone, The Citarella Family, The Seraino Family, Michael, St. Stephen's Child Development Ctr, and St. Stephen's Church Family.

**Long Term:** Chris & Kent Madsen, Joyce, Jan Wagner, Gail & Nancy, Renie Leaman, Beverly Gilladett, Lisa Pawalkat, Greg Weber, Bonnie Hansen, Dee, Jill Lapp, Mickayla, Pearl Runquist, Jeanne, Ron Buswell, The Robe Family, The Volpi Family, Brooks & Glen Leaman, The Youth



## Sunday School News

Dear Sunday School Friends and Families,

Thanks so much to everyone that helped with and attended our annual Sunday School Potluck and Student Art Show. It was a wonderful way for our children to feel connected and valued in our congregation. We especially appreciate the help of Kirk McMillin and Joel Hurttgam for their effort in getting everything ready for the fun! We sure needed those tents!

Just because Sunday School is over for this school year doesn't mean that the fun stops there! Children's Church will begin on June 2<sup>nd</sup> with a more relaxed setting following the children's message for our single service time during the summer. During the Sunday School year I try to build on the past lessons as we progress. Our student attendance is pretty consistent so that works well during the regular school year. With so many people travelling during the summer I try to plan lessons for Children's Church that stand alone, meaning if you missed the last Sunday it won't be difficult for students to catch up or know where we are and what we are doing.

Children's Church is a great opportunity for volunteers as well! If you have something special that you would like to share with our students, this summer program is a great time to do it. There will be a sign-up sheet in the back of the church for volunteers to lead our children during this program.

Please let me know if you have any questions and I look forward to seeing you all this summer!

Sincerely, Dusty Gipson  
831-338-3787 home



## St. Stephen's Child Development Center

We welcome June as the end of our traditional school year. The summer program will begin July 8<sup>th</sup> after a week break for Fourth of July. We are experiencing increased interest from families about our program mostly the two-year old's program. **A special thanks to Bill Schraft who painted Room 2** for this program and to Lisa Johnson for helping paint the shelves. This classroom will be hosting an Open House on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Interested Families will have the opportunity to meet the teacher Mayra Oliva, tour the campus, and experience a play date for prospective students and parents to meet.

Gardening season is here and we have been preparing to plant. A special thanks to those who have donated, especially Joel H. for the Cabrillo College Horticulture lab plants including select vegetables. Lisa J. has contributed plants as well including the pumpkins already in the planter. We truly appreciate the work day volunteers who helped spruce up the physical plant. They did a wonderful job in various areas of need. Please consider joining the group on our next workday June 22.

I had the opportunity to meet with Sita Moon Director of the Santa Cruz County Office of Ed. who provided me with much recourse to provide families with specialized information when needed. It is our goal to work in partnership with families and provide them with resources to facilitate healthy development for their children. My initial goal in January was to provide continuity and repetition to provide a secure environment for the students. Four months later they are entrenched in the routine, especially at our group circle time. As we repeat many favorite activities new ideas are inspired by child interest that grows from their individual experience. It is very enjoyable to see their faces light up when we start with our favorite songs each day along with honoring requests such as Akin Drum. This is a collaborative song which we draw the man on the moon with vegetables, fruits, and other items as each child shares his idea. The end result is a fun tune and visual indeed.

As we end the traditional school year I would especially like to thank my right hand volunteer teacher Dusty Gipson. She is an inspiration and source of joy as we work together with the children. We will miss her this summer but suspect she may drop by a few times to play. Finally, thank you so much to our congregation for continued contribution to our program we appreciate your, time, talents, and goods.

Blessings, Kathryn Berens

WISH LIST: Kleenex, Non-scented baby wipes, Lysol wipes, 2 bus pans, Paper plates sm. & lg, Creamy peanut butter, Jelly



## **THRIVENT BUILDS May 2013 Update**

Thrivent Financial, the local Thrivent Chapter, local Lutheran Congregations and Habitat for Humanity Santa Cruz County have partnered to build one affordable family home in Santa Cruz.

### **Family selection:**

Haley and Ian Sun, our Habitat Partner Family, is busy contributing sweat equity – even though construction has not yet begun on Harbor Drive. Ian volunteers at Habitat's Blake Lane site every week and Haley works in the Habitat office as well as the Habitat ReStore weekly.

**Fundraising:** (Our Thrivent matching requirement is met once Donated & Received equals \$25,000) Total-to-date: \$29,442 Donated & Received: \$9,509 Pledged & Committed: \$19,933

Get a group together and reserve your volunteer build day. Saturdays are popular and will fill-up soon, so reserve your build day early. Volunteer days can be scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday too! To volunteer contact Ginger: 469-4663 or [volunteer@habitatsc.org](mailto:volunteer@habitatsc.org).

St. Stephen's continues to Provide Lunches the 4th Thursday of each month. Providing lunch satisfies Thrivent Builds volunteer requirements.

Thank you all who came out to celebrate the Groundbreaking! The site has been cleared of all extra shrubs and the remaining trees have been pruned. The grading permit was issued and grading work will begin right away on Harbor Drive.

Come visit our newly open ReStore ! 1007 Cedar Street, downtown

Questions or ideas? Please contact Beth Bowman  
469-4663 or [development@habitatsc.org](mailto:development@habitatsc.org)



## **WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Liturgical Subcommittee met 4/30, sang through several new liturgical settings and selected these two new beautiful liturgies:

- Setting 7 for Pentecost, lively Spanish/English that we will use from May 19 -Aug 25
- "God Give Us Light" from the Mass of Light that we will use from Sept- Nov.

We hope these liturgies lead you to encounter God in new and familiar ways. The W/M Comm. has posted minutes in the Narthex, as well as our purpose and our short and long term goals. There is also a page where you can write comments about the activities indicated in the minutes. The Comm. members are always available for your comments and ideas as to how worship can be more meaningful to you as it speaks to your spirit and heart.

Submitted on behalf of the Worship and Music Committee, Barbara Rice  
Committee Members: Bonnie, Candace, Gary, Jim, Kirk, Ruth M. & Suzanne



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

### ***ELCA Celebrates 25th Anniversary***

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2013 under the theme, "Always being made new." What God is doing through us here at home and around the world is worth celebrating.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul writes, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" We are a church that is deeply rooted – and always being made new. Our roots are in Scripture, tradition and the Lutheran Confessions, as well as in the vibrant communities and rich histories of our congregations.

**Mary - Martha / Ruth -Rebecca Women's Circle**  
**Annual Salad luncheon**  
**June 13 at noon**

Join us at Margaret Schraff's home in her beautiful garden. 1225 Whispering Pines Drive, Scotts Valley. Carpools will be formed from the church at 11:30. RSVP 438-3680 by June 6. Hostesses are Lu Sluiter and Margaret. Plan to bring a salad. Dessert provided.

This Circle has had many outstanding programs and guest speakers this past year. In September, we listened to Erika Hearon talk about the services the Davenport Resource Center offers. In January, David Balogh did a very informative presentation on weather and climate. In March, we heard from Laura Kasa about the group called Save Our Shores, regarding the great work they have done to reduce plastic in our oceans. In April, Ruth Cruddas spoke about all the activities that the non-profit Santa Cruz al Salvador organization has accomplished with our sister community in El Salvador. In May we learned about Human Trafficking and how the ELCA is working to stop the abuse presented by Truitt Bobo. Throughout the year we have had many festive party meetings in October, February and December. We welcome all St. Stephens' women to attend any to all our meetings.

**PLEASE JOIN US - ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!!**



## Stewards of the Month



Thanks to Kirk McMilin and the worship band (Vi Olly, Tom Blegen, Jesse McMilin, bass player Mike) for their music leadership this past year and for their fun entertainment at our potluck.



Thanks to Betty Coonrad for her consistently providing our preschool with home-baked cookies!



Thanks to Kevin Meek for solving our sanctuary projector problem by finding us a much better one and then flawlessly installing it. What a difference that has made. It was purchased with undesignated memorial funds.



Thanks to Vi Olly for helping to lead a prison Bible Study on Sunday afternoons. Please keep her new effort in your prayers.



All of these folks offer their gifts to help make the Body of Christ at St. **Stephen's a vibrant and healthy ministry. We are called to follow Christ by** acting on our faith and using what God has given us as these folks have.



June Benevolence = World Hunger

May Benevolence = Mt. Cross \$151.00 given

*From Pastor Cindy Beck*

## **Congregational Assessment**

Pastor Beck presented a 16 page Congregational Assessment at the May 18 Healing Gathering. Copies are available at church. The Assessment compiles the information gathered from phone interview, the questionnaires, workshop, and small group discussions and breaks it into categories and levels of celebrations and concerns of those who participated. It also provides a focus for problems to solve in upcoming sessions.

## **Healing Sessions - Restoring Broken Relationships**

May 18 was the first of the Healing Sessions for St. Stephen's. The goal of these sessions is to begin restoring broken relationships by people acknowledging their hurts and sharing it directly with the person (s) they see has contributing to that hurt.

This is the most difficult part of reconciliation, which is a goal of the mediation process. Those who were present at this session witnessed the power, vulnerability, and intimacy of this process.

The process involves individuals writing down a hurt they are feeling on an index card, one hurt per card. Individuals can have as many index cards as they need. Also written on the index card:

- The name of the person whom they want to hear the hurt.
- A statement of affirmation for the named person.
- A statement of regret, apology, confessions, and/or things the individual wish they themselves had done differently in the situation.

When an individual is ready, they come forward to share their hurt and ask the person they've identified as contributing to the hurt come forward. A process of listening for meaning, giving feedback, and moving to expressions of regret, apology, confession and things that could have been done differently goes on between the two. After the exchange, the individual who has expressed his/her hurt is asked if they are ready to let go of their hurt. Both "yes" and "no" answers are honored.

Some things to note about this process:

- Recognizes that all people have value
- Acknowledges all people are saint and sinner
- Acknowledges that both individuals contribute to how interactions are perceived
- Takes seriously the power of true corporate and individual confession and forgiveness
- Gets participants out of the boat and walking on water with our eyes on Christ

(Pr. Beck continued)

In preparing for upcoming healing events, try to understand what is going on inside you. Do you feel ignored/unimportant? Rejected? Embarrassed? Insulted? Frustrated? Misunderstood? Do you feel you had no voice in important decisions? Do you feel a process was unfair?

We readily assume we know “why” someone did what they did - he/she doesn’t like me, he/she doesn’t respect me, he/she wants to take control, etc. We accept our interpretations of the other person as absolute truth. Yet we rarely examine our own motivations/drives/needs that arise out of our emotional response to an event or interaction.

I encourage those who have been participating to look over your strengths and the excesses in calm and in storm. Note how much (or little) you change from calm to conflicted situations and recognize the difference of how others will perceive you. Remember that when you think you are acting out of strength, you may be operating out of excess.

Confession is all the more powerful with acute self awareness. Paul writes to the Romans, *“I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.”* We confess, *“I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; by what I have done; and by what I have not done... I have not loved my neighbor as myself...”*

Individual Healing Sessions — Some people indicated they would not feel comfortable doing this work in public. While doing it in the group is more powerful and models how broken relationships affect the whole body of Christ, meeting privately with the person from whom you have experienced hurt is available.

Since this also involves my presence, the times to do individual meetings will have to be after the June 1 and June 15 sessions. The person whom you wish to hear you will also need to be present. A sign up sheet will be available in the narthex. Find a time and sign your name.

If you would like me to make arrangements for the person whom you wish to listen to be there, email me your name, the time you are available to meet, and the name of the person you desire to hear your hurt. My email address is: [gdpastorcindy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gdpastorcindy@sbcglobal.net)

Additional Healing Session will be held

**Saturday, June 1, 9 - 11:30 AM**

**Saturday, June 15, 9 - 11:30 AM**

Please prayerfully consider being part of this very important step of responding to God’s call to reconciliation.

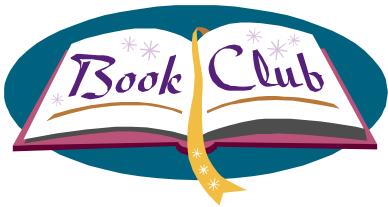
# Sister Parish Benefit

June 1 @ Bargetto's Winery

3:00 to 5:00

Music & silent auction

Good food and fellowship      Tickets still available.



## BOOK CLUB

Saturday, June 8 at 10:30 am

in the Fireside Room

**Book: "The Invisible Wall" by Harry Bernstein**

**August Book: "Blue Like Jazz"**

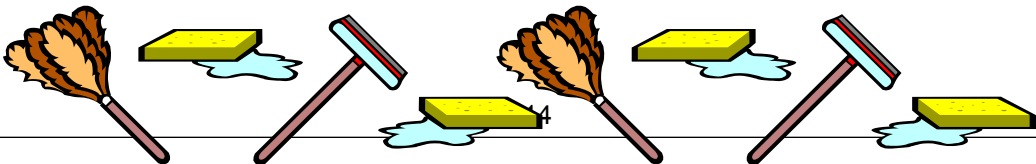
Contact: Candace 476-9753, Connie 475-6076

## SPRUCE UP SATURDAYS

**June 22      9 am- noon**

**Save the next "Spruce Up" dates: July 20 & August 17**

Let's get together to make our church shine! There will always be on-going general maintenance, such as weeding and dusting cobwebs, but if you have a special project you would like to do, let me know ahead of time so we can arrange supplies and sign up volunteers. Contact Council member Joel Hurrtegam w/ questions or suggestions. 425-0964





## El Salvador Sister Parish News

Several youth from multiple churches in our area are going on a two week delegation to El Salvador starting June 28th. They will be staying in our sister community of Guillermo Ungo for one week and serving in the school and medical clinic. They will be spending the first week in the nearby city of Suchitoto where they will be attending a language school. They will give a full report on their trip when they get back, through the newsletter and hopefully in a presentation also. Please pray for this first Santa Cruz al Salvador youth delegation that God would guide them, keep them safe and help them to be a blessing to our brothers and sisters in El Salvador.

If you have a prayer child, this is a good opportunity to send a letter and let them know you are thinking and praying for them. There will be a box for letters on the table in the Narthex. Deadline is June 23 for letters. There are several good Spanish speakers going on the delegation so if you would like your letter translated, just leave it unsealed and write *translate* on the envelope. We have an updated list of students which includes some older youth, who would be a shorter term commitment, as well as a few young ones. We ask for \$70 a year if you are able, which goes for uniforms and school supplies to support the students and school, and we also ask for a commitment to keep your child in prayer and send a letter at least once a year and a gift for Christmas. Please let any one of the Santa Cruz al Salvador representatives know if you are interested in learning more about this program.

The youth delegation will also be taking a few needed supplies for the school and clinic. Items in particular need now are crayons (regular and large sized), blue ink pens, Ibuprofen and gauze in individually wrapped or bulk packs. You can place any of these items in the same box with the letters.

Your El Salvador Representatives ~  
Kent & Chris Madsen, Mike & Ruth Cruddas,  
Lisa Johnson and Jill Adachi

St Stephen's Lutheran Church  
2500 Soquel Avenue  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

Non-Profit Org.  
Postage Paid  
Permit #79  
Soquel, CA 95073

**POST OFFICE:  
DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE DO NOT DELAY**

**NEWSLETTER WAS SENT ON  
May 29, 2013**

Coffee Hour

**Children's Church**

9:30 am Worship Service

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal



# **ST. STEPHEN'S SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**