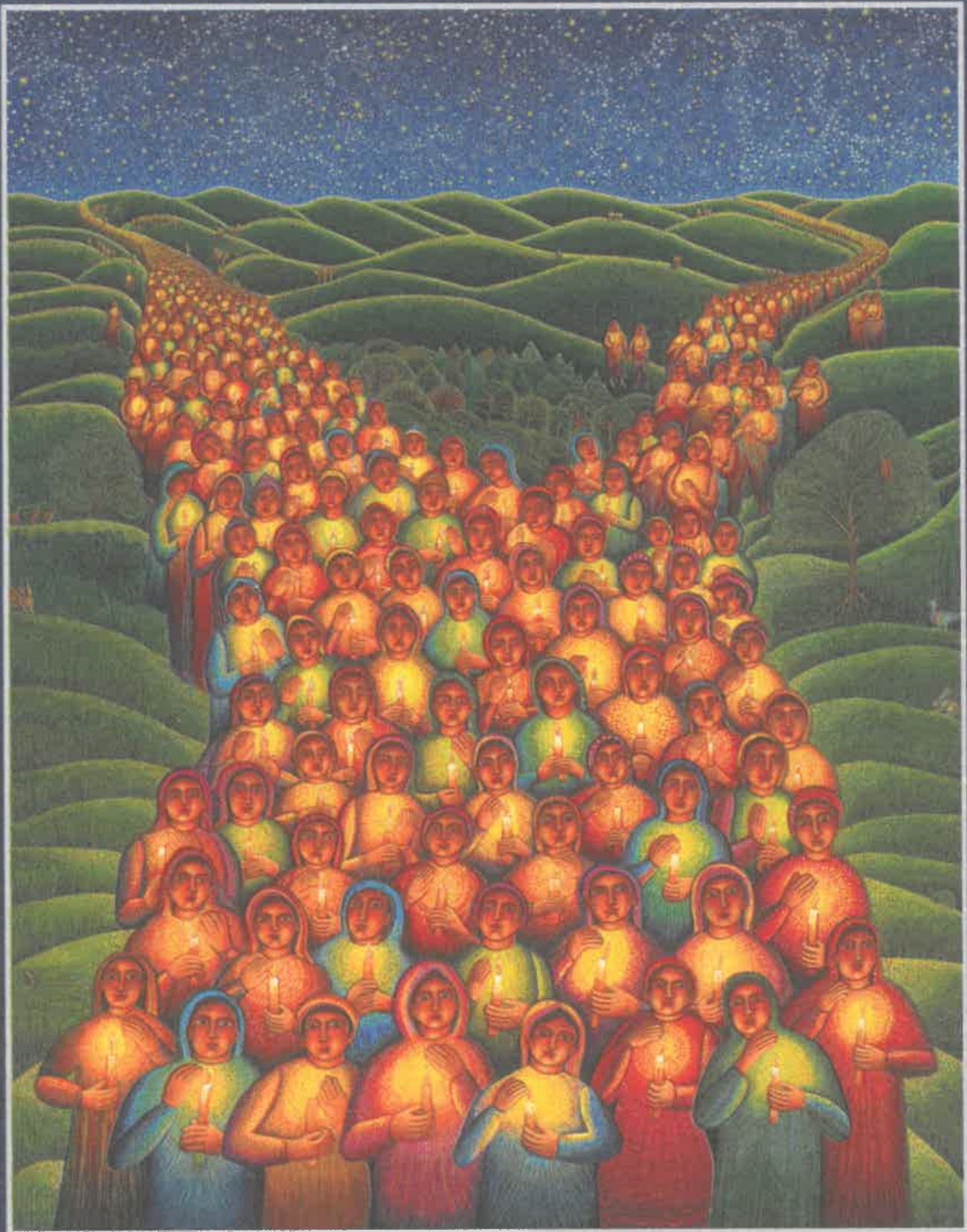


*God will wipe away
every tear
from their eyes*

REVELATION 7:17



ALL SAINTS DAY
German Folk Mass
November 1, 2026 10:00 a.m.

Music “A Fanfare for all Saints” ~ Richard Harris

Welcome to people new to this church or faith, long time Lutherans, and Christians from every tradition. Welcome to all who have no church home, want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not believe. Welcome to new visitors and old friends. Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, sexual orientation and marital status, ability and challenge. Welcome to believers and questioners and questioning believers. This is a place where you are welcome to celebrate and sorrow, rejoice and recover. This is a place where lives are made new. Welcome on this day.

Please fill out the “Worship Slip” and place it in the offering plate.

(*) Asterisk means, “Please stand as you are able.”

The Gathering

*Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,
Our dwelling place for all generations,
Whose compassion never slumbers.

C: Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God’s transforming power.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Holy God,

**C: We confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.**

We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.

We trust the voice of our shame and fear,

Which keeps us from entering fully

Into relationship with you and others.

We are not awake to the coming of your reign.

Rouse us and rescue us,

That we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace.

+ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.

You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"For All the Saints" Red #422 vs. 1, 2, 5, 6 & 7

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,....

Who thee by faith before the world confessed,

Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;

thou, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight;...

thou in the darkness drear, their one true light.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

5 The golden evening brightens in the west;

Soon, soon to faithful servants cometh rest;...

Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:

The saints triumphant rise in bright array;

The King of glory passes on his way.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

(hymn continued)

7 From earth's wide bounds,
from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates...of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Call To Worship "Come Now and Worship"

Come Now and worship
Come now and worship the Lord
Come now and worship
Join as we sing and adore
Gather together
Give God the praise that is due
Hear us as we come to worship
Sing praise to you.

We bring our gifts
Gifts of our selves and our lives.
With bread and wine
We offer you our whole lives.
This celebration
Draws us all closer to you.
Hear us as we come to worship.
Singing praise to you.

Jesus our Savior.
Died on the cross just for us.
Rose from the dead
He gives salvation to us.

Gather together
Drawing us closer to you.
Hear us as we come to worship.
Singing praise to you.

*Prayer of the Day

P: May God be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Let us Pray.

God Stories — How has God's Word come alive in your life?

The Word of God

First Reading Revelation 7:9-17 Celebrate pg. 1

R: Word of God, Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 34:1-10 Choir with cong. response Cel. pg. 2

Second Reading 1 John 3:1-3 Celebrate pg. 3

R: Word of God, Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand as you are able)

Good News Acclamation (before & after Gospel)

Allelujah. Allelujah. Allelujah. Allelujah.

P: The Holy Gospel acc. to St. Matthew the 5th Chapter.
C: Glory to You, O God.

*Gospel Reading Matthew 5:1-12 Celebrate pg. 3

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Allelujah. Allelujah. Allelujah. Allelujah.

Sermon Rev. James P. Lapp

*Hymn of the Day

"Death Be Never Last" Blue #1030

We walk in light of countless faces
Bright as beams of rising sun,
certain as the morning chases
Night in endless ages' run.

REFRAIN

Turning eyes now to their shining mem'ry,
To their faithful past,
Saints be now the truth divining;
Death be now but never last.

When sorrow's heavy hand has weighted
loss against the greater gain,
Pinning down that grief sore fated
Laden on the deed of pain,

REFRAIN

When joy returns with laughter singing
Thanks to God for life's sweet song,
Let us follow after bringing
thanks to God for those now gone. REFRAIN

The Prayers of the Church

Celebrate, Page 4

The Communion Meal

*Passing of the Peace

P: May the peace of God be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Offering — We honor and worship God by returning some
of the gifts with which we have been blessed.

Music “When the Saints Go Marching in”
African American Spiritual

Offering Hymn “At This Sacrifice”
(Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain)

At this sacrifice we gather
Celebrating of your love.
For the sins we have committed,
Grant us pardon Lord of love.
Hearts to grow a little tender,
As the time of life goes by.
Love and kindness for each other,
Much too fast the moments fly.

(hymn continued)

Jesus we're not worthy ever,
To receive you here today.
Say the word denying never.
Make us pure again we pray.
God is love and God is mighty.
God is ever merciful.
Graces from God's holy bounty,
Sends God's love most wonderful.

Through the ages and forever,
In the heavenly domain.
Show the path for us to enter,
There for always to remain.
Life is like a dying ember,
Only moments do remain.
Increase our feeble faith O Jesus.
Shed thy healing light a gain.

Offering Prayer

P: Let us Pray...
Eternal God,
Our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer and all that you entrust to us,
Until hunger is no more and all the world is fed,
Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving

P: May God be with you.
C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every tongue and nation.

*Words of Institution

*Lord's Prayer

Our Father, in heaven,

**hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today, our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

**as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours**

Now and forever. Amen

P: In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

(You may be seated)

Holy Communion

Guests: You are welcome to come forward to receive Communion as part of this church family! Children are welcome to come forward and receive a special blessing if they have never communed before. Communion is by intinction, which means that we dip the bread into either the wine (red) or grape juice (white). If you need gluten-free bread, please indicate that to the pastor. You will receive an individually wrapped gluten-free wafer to open yourself and dip into the cup. All are truly welcome!

Lamb of God (Tune: Edelweiss)

Lamb of God, Lamb of God,
you take away the world's sin.
Lamb of God, Lamb of God,
you take away the world's sin.
Mercy and peace may you grant to us,
Grant to us forever.
Lamb of God, Lamb of God, grant to us your peace.

Communion Hymn

"Welcome Table" ACS #969

I'm agoin'a eat at the welcome table,
I'm agoin'a eat at the welcome table,
some of these days.
I'm agoin'a eat at the welcome table,
I'm agoin'a eat at the welcome table,
some of these days.

I'm agoin'a feast on milk . . . And honey,
I'm agoin'a feast on milk . . . And honey,
some of these days.

I'm agoin'a feast on milk . . . And honey,
I'm agoin'a feast on milk . . . And honey,
some of these days.

I'm agoin'a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
I'm agoin'a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
some of these days.

I'm agoin'a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
I'm agoin'a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
some of these days.

The Sending

*Communion Blessing

P: May this Holy Communion of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: **Amen.**

Post Communion Hymn

“Let Us Sing” (Wooden Heart)

Let us sing, let us sing, let us sing to Christ our King.
Sing to Christ our King as we ask for his help this day.
God is good God is kind,
God will give us peace of mind,
Give us peace of mind if we following God's way.
There's no strings upon this love
God gives, God asks only your love in return
God is good, God is kind,
God will give us peace of mind,
Give us peace of mind if we follow in God's way.

*Blessing

P: The holy Trinity, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
Bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
Today and always.

C: Amen.

*Closing Hymn

“Shall We Gather at the River”

Red #423

Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
With its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?

REFRAIN

*Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God*

On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever,
all the happy golden day. *REFRAIN*

Ere we reach the shining river,
lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown. *REFRAIN*

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace. *REFRAIN*

*Dismissal

P: Go in Peace. Encourage one another.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Music

“Come We That Love the Lord”

Issas Watts, 1674~1748

Serving Today

Reader: Elke Spires

Coffee Host: Shelly Barker

Altar Guild: Margaret Schraft

Office Support: Candace Anderson, Sheila Buswell
& Sherilyn Jager

Altar Flowers

Sign up in the narthex
Dedicate to loved ones
Bring your own or use our Florist



LUTHERAN OFFICE of PUBLIC POLICY —CALIFORNIA

November Ballot Measure Voting Guides Available in Narthex

The Policy Council of the Lutheran Office presents recommendations, ground in the framework, principles, values and commitments of the ELCA as expressed in its social statements.

“Lutherans care about government because it is a gift from God intended for the safety and flourishing of human life.”

Election Engagement as Faithful Civic Witness In the Lutheran tradition, “life in society involves honoring God’s two ways of rule: the right hand, which channels God’s forgiveness and unmerited love, and the left hand, which channels God’s love into just governance on earth.” Civic engagement in the ELCA arises both from concern about disorder and injustice and from a hopeful commitment to the well-being of all people. In its social teaching, the ELCA calls on members of this church “to pray, participate in, and advocate for civic life in the United States.” This includes “supporting efforts to increase voter registration and access to polling places, and to help dismantle structural barriers to the ballot box and to civic participation more broadly, all as part of this church’s faithful civic witness.”

Holy Conversations

Today 11:30

A time for exploring where God might be calling us to next! These small group gatherings have been planned by our Long Range Task Force (Pr. Jim, Mark Linder, Tina Gates, Jeannette Dawson & Steven Hendrickson). As we have studied the book “When Church Stops Working” as a faithful response to the reality of our church’s decline, it is time to re-gather our spirits and begin to ask “What are our hopes for the future of our congregations ministry.” Let’s begin to dream and imagine together about some creative ways that our ministry together can now engage in.

Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 15

11:00

Topic:

approval of funds to repair
the Fireside Room roof.

Details about this repair will be provided before and during the meeting. We need a quorum of approximately 30 members present to vote to release the funds for this repair. I expect the meeting to be brief. We will start the meeting immediately after worship.



New Ways of Giving

Our *Virtual Offering Plate* has been enhanced. Donations can be made by: credit card, debit card, PayPal, Venmo and Zelle.

- 1) **Vanco**, our regular electronic giving provider;
- 2) **PayPal / Venmo / Zelle** for single one-time gifts;
- 3) **PayPal** with the possibility of recurring donations and an option to cover the fees.

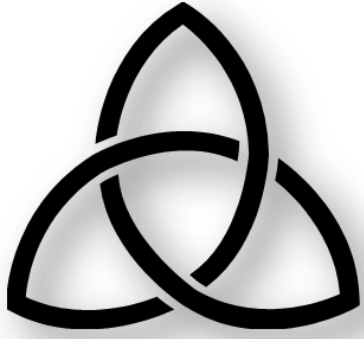
All are available at
<https://ststephenslutheran.org>
Or by scanning this QR code.



Prayer Concerns

SHORT TERM Kathybelle, family & friends of Barbara Allen, Cheryl Curry & Family, Ron Waltrip, Missy, Nancy, Lis Wyatt, Lisa Alfred, Kathy Gray, James & Family, Family of Mark Linder, Brian Garcia & Family, Dorothy Ronning, Kavon & family, Janet, Shelton, Judy, Mary, Brandon, Josie, Andre, Lurline, Tyeleiga, Diane Johnnie, Phill, Tina Brown, Alma Black, Andrea Black Tamsen, Leila, Doug Yaryan, Rob, Debbie Greso, James White, Jeffery, Zaun family, Doug Lentz, Rev. Will & Dorothy Sieburg, Pam Huypner, Bob Zigler, Taiyo, Kevin, Liz, Sam, Kathy M., Nancy, Grey, Levi, Galahad, Debbie, Sam, Nate Barker, Middle East Peace, Tom Dawson, Dustin, Father Jack Davis, Adolfo, Elida, Jeannie, Anetta, Jane, Rachel B., Anne & Chloe Johnston, Isaac & Marissa, Mateo & Lina, Atlas, Katarina.

LONG TERM Pr. Gary & Corinne Stevenson, Biergiel—Colclough family, Eric Utto-Galarneau, Beth UG, Brian Utto, Kathy Brooks, Joel Hurtgamm, Dawit & family (Ethiopia), Miller, April, Aaron Johnson, Shelby, Ashley, Frank, Joe, Lisa & Beau, Linda Johnson, Jan Shadle, Vi Olly, Mike, Ruth, Susan Anderson, Brouse Family, Janet Baker, Sandy Godvine, Janelle Yung, Karin, Will, Chris & John B., Those suffering with Mental Illness, Immigrant families, The Unhoused, People of Ukraine, People of Palestine/Israel, Our Nation's leaders, Mt. Cross, S.S. Senior Housing, Pastor Jim & Our Church Family, men & women of Armed Forces, and the Youth of



Trinity Tuesday

(Pub Theology / Discussion)

One Beverage ~ One Hour ~ One Question

(Corrected date)

Tuesday November 3 at 6:30pm

First Tuesday of the month at Discretion Brewery

*BRING YOUR DEEPEST QUESTIONS,
AN OPEN HEART,
& A CURIOUS MIND*

Gather with us for an evening of meaningful conversation and real community. Bring your questions about faith, life, and everything in between. No judgment, no limits—just authentic dialogue over a cold one.

Whether you've been with us from the start or you're stepping through the door for the first time, there's a seat waiting for you.

Past conversations: How do we see God? How are we called? Why do bad things happen to good people? Recognizing our God-given talents. How do we forgive?

Kathy Allen 430-6359 for more info.



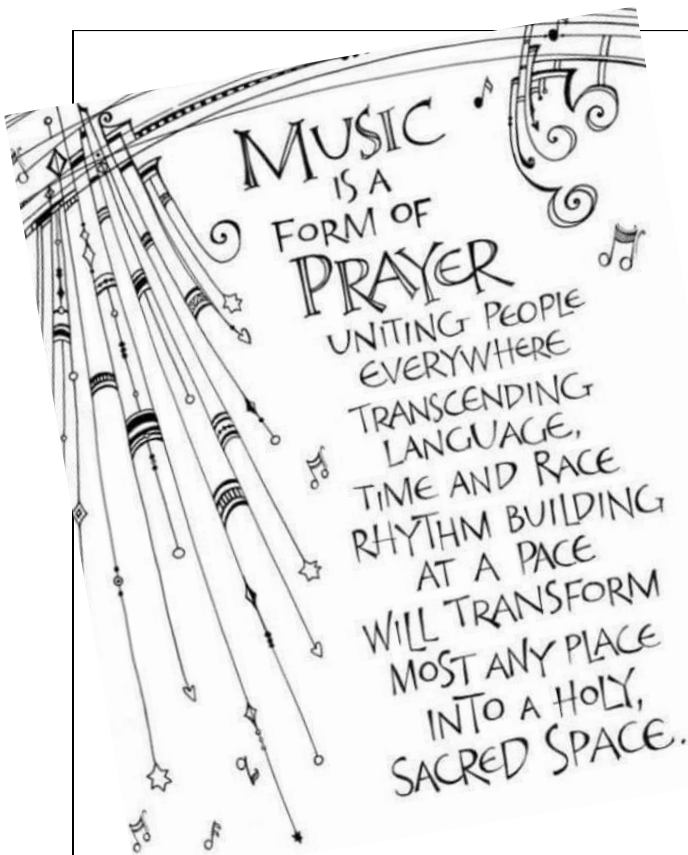
On ZOOM
with Pr. Jim

Check email on
Tues. for link

WEDNESDAYS

7:30 – 8:30 pm

We will be looking at the upcoming scripture readings for Sunday, to enrich our worship experience & uncover some of the deeper truths of our faith. As we grow in our faith, we grow in community.



It has been a pleasure engaging with Next Stage Productions... so much talent to share. We welcome Nancy Adams returning on Nov. 18, singing “Bring Him Home”, from Les Miserable. On Dec. 5 she sings, “When You Wish Upon A Star.”

The Good News Singers will begin rehearsal for Advent, and the Christmas season. Anyone who loves to sing is welcome to join & make music !

Yours in Christ and Mission, Gary

Upcoming Events:

Nov. Benevolence Offering = Santa Cruz al Salvador

TODAY	Holy Conversations 11:30 am
Nov. 3	Scouts 6:00 pm
Nov. 3	Trinity Tuesday 6:30 pm Discretion Brewry 41st Ave. Faith Questions with genuine community
Nov. 5 & 19	Women's Bold Café 6:00pm devotions and potluck
Nov. 4	Bible Study Zoom 7:30 pm
Nov. 5	Men's A.A. Group 7:00 pm
Nov. 6	"Next Stage Productions" 11 to 1
Nov. 6	A. A. Group 7:00 pm
Nov. 8-29	readers needed
Nov. 10	Church Council 6:30 pm
Nov. 12	Circle of Promise 10:30 am
Nov. 14	Embroider's Guild 10—12:30
Nov. 14	2:00 pm Memorial for Barbara Allen (Jeanette's mother)
Nov. 15	Special Cong. Meeting 11:00 (Roof \$)
Nov. 16-24	El Salvador Sister Parish Delegation
Nov. 21	COPA Assembly 10 am San Pablo Episcopal Ch. 1092 Noche Buena St. , Seaside

Pastor's Office Hours Wed & Thurs. 10:00 to 1:00

Our 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, invite people to share the joy of the Spirit.

Reconciling in Christ

*"We welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace.
We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of
race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity,
gender expression, or relationship status.
We welcome all without regard to addictions, physical or
mental health, imprisonment, socio-economic
circumstances, or anything that too often divides us.
Our unity is in Christ."*

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church E.L.C.A.
2500 Soquel Avenue
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
831/476-4700 FAX 831/476-3918
email: office@ststephenslutheran.org
Web Address: www.ststephenslutheran.org
Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. Noon—5:00 pm

Ministers: The People of St. Stephen's
Pastor: Rev. James P. Lapp
Church Administrator: Leslie Lapp
Music Director: Gary Roberts
Sunday School: Leslie Lapp
Custodian: John Hopping
Powerpoint: Kent Madsen & Barbara Rice

Music used by permission Onelicense #A-706539