

SPIRIT OF ST STEPHENS

A SMALL CHURCH WITH A BIG HEART

JUNE 2014

CHURCH CONGRATULATES CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

We happily welcomed three young adults as confirmed members of the church on June 8, Pentecost Sunday.

These young people have studied hard and have been eager to learn about the Bible and though we studied in a non traditional way they have shown that they know and understand the teachings of Luther. They are still growing in their faith so I ask that you keep them in your prayers and welcome them as confirmed and vital members of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. New confirmations: Jolean Reed, Jordan Althouse, Sam Able.

Yours in Christ
Dena Travelsted



A reception was held after service on Sunday in their honor and Pastor Bob expressed the thanks of the congregation for Dena and Jim's dedication to teaching this confirmation class.

From left to right front row, Jordan Althouse, Jolean Reed, Pastor Bob, Sam Able, back row, Dena Travelsted and Jim Travelsted.



CALENDAR:

- June 19 Ruth Circle to For Bare Feet Socks & Grays (all invited) 11 AM
- June 21 Clean Up & Cook Out (all invited) 10 AM
- June 28 Food Pantry 9-11
- July 10 Ruth Circle
- July 12 Blood Drive 9-12
- July 12 Clean Up & Cook Out 10 AM
- July 13-19 Hendricks County Fair
- July 26 Food Pantry 9-11
- July 27 Church Basement Ladies
- August 2 Yard Sale

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MAY 5, PROPERTY MEETING * UPDATES FROM JUNE 2, PG 7

MEMBERS PRESENT: JEFF ALTHOUSE, WALLY REED, RON COVINGTON

Items of discussion:

1. **Roof replacement over Narthex / Fellowship Hall ...** Monday, May 12 at 6:30am, the roofers started to work removing the shingles on the Narthex and Fellowship Hall. They went completely down to bare decking. Four sheets of decking had to be replaced due to water damage (it crumbled away while they were removing it). Monday, at 6:45pm Ochoa's crew was finished installing all

the new shingles on both roofs plus the two corner roofs on the front of the church. They came back on Tuesday and replaced some downspouts, gutters, and gable trim on the back of the Fellowship Hall. This portion of the roof is now complete. We need to start saving and planning for the replacement of the roof over the Sanctuary as soon as possible.

2. **The youth and adult St. Stephen's clean up day May 17, 2014...** We sanded and painted five outside doors, (three on the back and two on the south side). We meant to work up a sec-

tion of ground for a "Peace Garden" for the youth group but determined we needed to have a clearer plan, which we worked on instead. We also had a small cook out for volunteers under the shelter house. It was a great day.

3. **Window leaks in the Sanctuary...** Two of the windows on the North side are leaking, water is running in and dripping to the seals on the bottom and of course onto the floor. We resealed those on May 17 and will watch for further leaks.

4. **Wooden sign...** The wooden sign was also

painted starting in the evenings of May 19th and May 20th. It rained on us after the initial painting but the white has been completed too. The legs are treated wood and cannot be painted until they have weathered a year. So we all have to just live with brown legs.

The next property meeting will be July 7 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

Ron Covington
Property Committee

updates on pg 7

BAPTISMS

We were Blessed this Spring with two Baptisms. On April 27 the son of Tony and Betsy McMichael, Archibald Ummel McMichael. His sponsors are Matthew and Maggie Edwards.

We hope to see these families in the future.



EVANGELISM MEETING MAY 13, 2014

Members Present:

Genie, Marilyn, Sandy, Skip, Sandy and Ron C.

Special Guests: Linda M., Melody & Gregg B.

Items of Discussion:

1. The Fall Festival...

Based on the Congregational vote on March 16, the Fall Festival, will continue. We have assigned committee chairs. At this meeting we went around the table giving each committee head the opportunity to address any concerns they may have. We had some very good planning and discussion during this time, it was well worth it. All committees are moving ahead very well. We will have a floor plan in place for our next committee Head meeting in July.

2. Food Pantry... Ruth Circle has been working very hard getting St. Stephen's Food Pantry started. They have at-

tended meetings with other Food Pantry's/ This is a great outreach programs, and it fills a need that continues to grow each and every day. The Evangelism and Property committees will support and help out any way possible. Good job!

3. Hendricks County Fair... We have not gotten any response from Messiah Lutheran Church yet. We are going to keep moving forward. We are checking into items to use to stuff the bags we hand out. We will have the Corn Hole Toss again this year, and *Lutheran's on Bluegrass* will perform, (they are a big hit each year). Our booth will require three volunteers to man the booth.

4. Little Caesar Pizza Kits... It's Pizza time, the order Kits arrived and were distributed. Pizza were sold and picked up. And even

though sales were a little disappointing we deeply appreciate the work of those who helped with this fundraiser.

Updates from June 10

1. **Santa Shop** ... we currently have just under \$1,000 dollars in our Santa Shop bank. Thanks to fund raising events like Kohl's, City Barbecue and Little Caesar's Pizza kits. Jerry will contact Noodles to schedule a date, we are hoping for either the 11th or 14th of August.

2. **The Hendricks County 4-H Fair** ... this year the fair runs from July 13th to July 18th. St. Stephens and Faith will share a booth again this year. We will need three members from St. Stephens in the booth at all times. We will take two games, Plink-o and Corn hole

toss. Each game will require one attendant to help operate them. The third person will hand out bags stuffed with literature about both Churches to the adults.

3. **Place mats** ... we are in the process of creating place mats to use during the Fall Festival on the trays. Skip has designed a lay out with different size add spaces and price ranges accordingly. We are contacting business owners and commercial establishments trying to sell them advertising space on these mats. Proceeds from the sale of advertising space can help offset some of the expense for the Fall Festival.

4. Fall Festival subcommittee heads will attend the next Evangelism meeting.

The next Evangelism meeting will be July 8, 2014 at 7:30 pm. All members of the congregation are always welcome to attend.



Our second Baptism was

On April 13 the son of Kevin and Audra (Jensen) Graves and the grandson of Scott and Peggy Jensen. His sponsors were Ethan and Brit-tany Slater.

Actually by dates I guess I got that backwards, either way we certainly hope to these families at church so we can watch those little guys grow up Lutheran.

NEWS FROM THE YOUTH

“ BUT WHEN YOU PRAY GO INTO YOUR ROOM, CLOSE THE DOOR AND PRAY TO YOUR FATHER, WHO IS UNSEEN. THEN YOUR FATHER, WHO SEES WHAT IS DONE IN SECRET WILL REWARD YOU.”
MATTHEW 6:6

The Youth of St. Stephen’s are planning the building of a peace garden outside the glass windows in the Narthex. They hope to have small bushes, flowers, a walkway and bench. Peace or prayer gardens are a wonderful traditional place to be alone with your thoughts and the Lord. They are very excited and

planning to make a beautiful, peaceful place for prayer, meditation, and study. They have ask for your help and support.



FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Saturday June 28th is our first day. We are very excited and appreciate SO much all you have done to get us to this point. If it hadn’t been for your consistent support in other mission work we would never have taken this giant leap of faith.

To help clarify how you can help please note:

Food placed in the big box or the round blue tub goes to our food pantry. We do have

things inventoried so please don’t put them on the shelf yourself, put items on the table or in the box and our volunteers will shelve them.

If you want to help please contact either Melody Burks, Linda Mitny, or Genie Reed. We’ll put you to work. If you don’t get to help this month don’t worry we have months and months of volunteering available. We want you to enjoy helping and feel like

you’ve served God by serving others. That’s one of our goals is to provide a hands on, one to one mission opportunity.

One final note, don’t be discouraged if we still have lots of food on Sunday the 29th. We are purposely starting slow. We have not advertised our pantry yet in any big way simply because we don’t want overwhelmed. Better to have too much than too little. 😊

CLARITY IN GIVING

It’s come to our attention that we have made giving to fight hunger VERY confusing SO.

1. If you put extra money in your envelope and mark the box that says **Hunger**, that money goes to ELCA World Hunger Ministries.
2. If you put extra money in your envelope and mark

it **Gleaners**, that money goes to Gleaners.

3. If you put extra money in your envelope and mark **it St Stephens Food Pantry**, that money comes to the SS Food Pantry.

Food items meant for our pantry go in the big round tub or the big box, both located

in the Narthex.

You can also designate your donations through your envelope to go to:

- The Organ Fund
- The Parking Lot Fund

Monies for the Santa Shop should be given directly to a member of Evangelism, Genie or Ron.

BLESSINGS FROM THE CONGREGATION

- Daughter's health improving
- Successful surgery for sister
- Daughter's retirement and preparing for the next chapter in her life
- Friend at peace after terrible battle with colon cancer
- Safe trip to grandson's graduation
- Enjoyable visit with family
- Beautiful sunshine and refreshing weather
- Spending valuable time with my family

Congratulations to all of our graduates. If we didn't get your name we apologize Grandchildren of Scharron Soladine - Morgan Manion graduated from Indiana University, Brandon Jan-son from Mooresville High School. Grandson of Gregg and Melody Burks - Tyler Ramsey from Martinsville High School.

RUTH CIRCLE NEWS

The Ruth Circle wants to thank everyone who attended the Spring Tea and everyone who helped make a wonderful day. The Scarf Tying Demonstration was FUN. The attendees eagerly sorted through Babette Edens assortment of scarves and scarf clips after



she explained how to wear scarves in many ways. Of course we had a nice variety of finger foods that were enjoyed by all. The foods were provided by the ladies of the Ruth Circle but even with all our work this day would not



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by all. The foods were provided by the ladies of the Ruth Circle but even with all our work this day would not



work without the dedicated help of these three gentlemen. Dick Hagar, Gregg Burks, and Ron Covington.



Singh making her first long day out since her long illness was kind enough to make Indian Tea for us so we had the marvelous smell of cinnamon, clove, and cardamom wafting from the kitchen all afternoon. Working together we made a memorable afternoon.



Our upcoming goals are:

1. getting the Food Pantry up and running.
2. sponsor the Beef and Boards visit on July 27.
3. prepare for our Yard Sale coming up on August 1-2, so remember keep those trinkets, household goods, clothes, yard goods, all those things you want to get rid of. Let us SELL THEM!
4. host a spaghetti dinner immediately after church on August 17. Tickets will go on sale soon.

Last but not least several of the ladies took a tour of a very interesting factory in Martinsville, FBF Originals, (For Bare Feet). It's was a great tour and the story is fascinating. Ultimately it helped put over 160 people to work in a

factory that sells product made in the USA all over the world We enjoyed the visit immensely and shared great fellowship at our lunch at Gray's before we went.

Our next meeting is July 10 at 11:00 AM any member is welcome. Bring your lunch.

****Our August 7 meeting will be a pitch in and all church members are welcome to join us. ****



Ladies at FBF Socks!

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

In my last report I mentioned we were investigating the use of a commercial call/computer system to notify members of emergency cancellations. Due to the attached cost and the requirement to use a pre-paid credit card, the Council determined to use the local TV Stations since there is no cost involved. We will submit our request to these stations.



Channel 6 ABC, WRTV

Channel 8 CBS, WISH

Channel 13 NBC, WTHR

Channel 59 FOX, WXIN

Gregg and Melody Burks have asked that we continue to recycle our aluminum cans. They will collect them and take them to be recycled. The money that we collect will be used to help stock the food pantry.



Our youth are working on plans for a peace garden to be located on the south side of the Narthex and Sanctuary. They perceive it as a place of solace, Christian study, and creativity. They have selected dates for our clean-days this spring and summer which are accompanied by a cook-out. All congregation members are invited to pitch in and spruce up the church and join in the fellowship, as well. They have expressed interest in assisting to teach the younger Christian Education Class. On Sunday, June 8th, their group grew by three as they welcomed new confirmands, Samuel Abel, Jordan Althouse, and Jolean Reed.

In the short meeting that was held after Worship Service on June 1, we developed a topic curriculum for the summer K-5th graders. Several of us will teach the classes and on August 23rd, the youth have a scheduled clean-up day that we plan to combine with a Sunday School Round-up and an evening cook-out. Save that date and come join us.

Worship and Music Ministry Committee has developed guidelines and request forms for "One Time Use of the Facility." Property Committee, as well as the ad hoc Risk Management Committee, have provided input. They will soon be ready for use.

On Friday, June 6, we received a check from Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company for \$5,129.63 which is the remaining reimbursement minus our \$1000.00 deductible for the recent roof repair. The check will go back into the house account. Also, at our special congregation meeting, we voted to establish a Parking Lot fund. Please remember that fund when you possibly can. Somehow with God's Blessing and for our safety, we must repair the parking lot before winter.

Evangelism Committee Fund Raisers for up-front money for the Santa Shop have been somewhat disappointing. We received \$79.20 from the City Barbeque Community Day. Our pizza sales and sales persons were way down this year. We needed to sell 100 kits to get free delivery and only sold 84. We made \$420.00 profit, but \$50.00 of that goes for delivery, leaving us a profit of \$370.00.

We continue to struggle in our recruitment efforts. Our committees are sorely in need of members. Our pews are sorely in need of being occupied. We established an ad hoc committee to investigate alternative approaches to meet these needs. The members of the committee are Pastor Bob, Marge Applegate, and Keenan Jones. Your input will be gratefully received if you have any ideas to share with us. We must "Put work gloves on our faith" so we can grow our church.

Sincerely, with love in Christ and prayers for help from the Holy Spirit,

Genie Reed

BEEF AND BOARDS TRIP

One more time we have planned to attend the Sunday Matinee of a performance at Beef and Boards Dinner Theater. We chose the third installment of "The Church Basement Ladies - A Mighty Fortress is Our Basement"

Tickets are \$53 per person which as you know pays not only for a meal but includes a wonderful performance with songs,

laughter, and inspiration. I think I can use a little inspiration, hope you can too. All monies must be deposited with Marybelle Wyse by May 29. We will take a final count of those attending starting on June 22 so please let us know if you are interested in joining us.

THIS MUSICAL COMEDY WAS INSPIRED BY THE BOOKS "GROWING UP LUTHERAN" AND "THOSE LUTHERAN LADIES" BY JANET LETNESS MARTIN AND SUZANN NELSON. MUSIC AND LYRICS BY DREW JANSEN; BOOK BY GRETA GROSCHE.



PROPERTY COMMITTEE JUNE 7 UPDATES

1. **Sanctuary Roof** ... we are currently in the process of acquiring three estimates for the main roof over the Sanctuary. These estimates will not only include the removal and replacement of all the shingles, they also will include applying aluminum trim panels over all of the wood trim that is currently on the Sanctuary now. The trim on this part of the building is wood and it needs attention (painting) very soon to save it, coving it with aluminum trim will protect it and make it maintenance free for many years. Due to the length of some of the pieces and height involved it would be a wise move to complete both the roof and the trim at the same time.
2. **The parking lot** ... we discussed the urgency with repairing the parking lot. This needs to happen ASAP, any further damage from this

this coming winter and price increase in materials next year could send the current price (\$6,556.00) up \$2,000 or \$3,000 dollars.

3. The Youth and Adult St. Stephen's clean-up day June 21, 2014 ...

Weather permitting the front doors will be taken down and sanded and repainted (red) and reinstalled. The post on the shelter house are scheduled to receive a coat of white paint. Work on the Peace Garden will continue as it moves to the next phase.

4. Doors ... the doors on the west and south side of the church that were gray have now received a new coat of gray paint that complements the roof shingles. This was done on the May 17th.

5. Wooden sign ... The main body of the wooden sign has been repainted and looks very nice in its permanent home. It will be next year in

May before we paint the two support post. Watch for more upgrades on the sign later this year.

Next Property meeting will be July 07, 2014 at 5:30pm. *All members are welcome to attend every property meeting*

Ron Covington/Property Committee



** Some things that have been done over the last two months have been done with money given to honor Carl and Virginia Reed, such as the lights on the front, outside the main door, and illuminating the cross, and some patch work on the parking lot. We appreciate the help with these updates that add so much.**



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News for the Newsletter should be sent to Melody Burks at melodys451@gmail.com or on paper, or call my home, 317-831-5241 Announcement and Prayer Requests for the Bulletin should go to Peggy Graham by Friday each week. Home phone 317-881-8198 or E-mail address: denisgraham@prodigy.net

LESSONS FROM BIBLE STUDY

We recently studied a lesson in Bible Study that put many of us on alert to beware of our own behaviors. It's a simple lesson from Paul written to the Corinthians. The lesson is as follows.

1 Corinthians 1:10-17 (selected verses)

10 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.

12 What I mean is this: One of you says "I follow Paul" another "I follow Appollos";

another, "I follow Cephas"; still another "I follow Christ."

13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul?

17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

1 Corinthians 3: 4-9 (sel)

4 When one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Appollos," are you not mere human beings?

5 What after all, is Appollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you

came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task.

6 I (Paul) planted the seed, Appollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

7 For neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God makes things grow.

9 For we are co-workers in God's service; we are God's field, God's building.

Let us keep this in mind as we work to grow St. Stephen's, "**...but only God makes things grow.**" Remember to trust in God and stay united in mind and thought.

