

The Enlightener

St. Stephen Lutheran Church



May 2019

from the Pastor's desk...

I want to express my most sincere thanks to those of you who have come forward to help out with things while we began the search for a new office administrator. We had huge shoes to fill and a steep learning curve, with still more to learn as we move forward. The timing for all of this may not be the most convenient for us with Lent and Easter approaching and with my planned absence falling in the midst of things as well. Your patience and support have been greatly appreciated.

Donna and Joe Seidl have both stepped into this support network, as has Charlene Crozier helping with a number of the secretarial duties. Dave Warnica has volunteered to oversee our bookkeeping and payroll and Carrie Hamilton graciously offered to help him with orientation. John Land has taken a more active roll in our office function as well, with practical support for office equipment and some human resources work. Frank Neugebauer has cheerfully supported us with computer and technical issues, as well as performing the numerous updates to our website and office systems. Paul Buick providing much needed support with building security issues and hall rentals.

To be honest, we've had a lot of stuff going on that we had to figure out to move forward, and Terry Delion and David Kruk, our chair and vice-chair of church council have been most helpful and deserve our thanks as well.

Paula Sears offered her human resources expertise to help us along the way to a new hire that should be coming soon. And that was such a huge help! Many others put their minds to the things that "were always taken care of for us" and helped us to "stay-on-track." And one of the most wonderful things to see was the number of offers to help with whatever was needed that came from so many of you. I am grateful beyond words for the generosity and support of everyone. **We are the Church!**

With abundant gratitude,

Pastor Richard

Welcome to Pastor Jim

Our interim Pastor, Jim Koellner begins serving St. Stephen with office hours on Tuesday mornings. Please make him welcome and feel free to stop in to chat or simply say hello!

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

248 Highland Road East, Kitchener, ON N2M 3W2
 phone: (519)744-2521 fax: (519) 744-2597 ststephens@live.ca
 www.ststephenchurch.ca

Newsletter:

The contribution deadline for the June issue of the newsletter is **Monday, May 20th**. Any submissions received after this date will be printed in the July Enlightener. We reserve the right to edit and condense all submissions.

Office Hours: The church office will be open Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30 am to 12 noon, or by appointment. Please call ahead to avoid disappointment if you are planning to drop in.

Magazine Rack: Do you want to know more about what is happening here at the church? Take a moment and check out the magazine rack! There you will find:

- ✓ Newsletters from St. Stephen, St. James, The Eastern Synod and many more!
 - ✓ Eternity for Today Devotionals
 - ✓ Duty Schedule Information (schedule, contact lists, etc.)
 - ✓ Committee Information (chairpersons, members, and contact information)
 - ✓ Financial Statements
 - ✓ Pre-Authorized Debit Information
 - ✓ The Canadian Lutheran and other magazines plus lots of other information from the community
- If there is something that you would like to see available that isn't, please contact the church office.

CHURCH COUNCIL 2019

Chairperson	Terry Delion	519-500-0545
Vice-Chairperson	David Kruk	519-578-3594
Co-Treasurers	John Land	519-570-1319
	Geoff Schmitt	519-595-4060
Secretary:	Peggy Nickels	519-576-7376
	Paul Buick	519-748-4311
	Lori Hansen	519-579-3223
	Jessica Kennedy	519-498-8807
	Larrie Brown	519-745-3919
	Jim Penny	519-578-9144

Pastoral Care - *If you, or a loved one require pastoral care, you may call Kathy at 519-742-3307 and she will arrange for a pastor to return your call as soon as possible. Pastor Richard is on medical leave but arrangements have been made for full coverage.*

Administrative Contacts

Pastor	Rev. Richard Schwass	lutheran.rich@gmail.com
Church Musician	Elizabeth Hackett	ststephenmusician@gmail.com
Office		ststephen@live.ca
Financial Secretary	Donna Seidl	seidl@rogers.com
Accounting	Dave Warnica	647-309-4592

COMMITTEES AND GROUPS

Card Group Coordinators	Larrie Brown	519-745-3919
	Larry Kennedy	519-576-9697
E.L.W.	Donna Seidl	519-570-0272
Finance Committee Chairperson	Geoff Schmitt	519-595-4060
Food, Fun & Faith	Lori Hansen	519-579-3223
Health & Safety Representative	Charlene Crozier	519-579-4066
Hospitality Committee Chairperson		
Human Resources Committee	Paula Sears	519-579-4417
Learning & Youth Committee Chairpersons	Jessica Kennedy	519-498-8807
Mutual Ministry Committee	Paula Sears	519-579-4417
Outreach Committee Chairperson	Maureen Jackson	519-208-5261
Property Committee Chairperson	Paul Buick	519-748-4311
Quilting Group President	Wilma Peirson	519-884-4068
St. Stephen Chapter: FaithLife Financial	Pastor Lloyd Wiseman	519-576-9989
Witness / Stewardship Committee Chairperson	Suzanne Brown	519-745-3919
Women's Prayer & Book Club Contact	Suzanne Brown	519-745-3919
Worship & Music Committee Team Leader	Jan Hansen	519-579-3223

Facebook - Check out our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/groups/ststephenkitchener



You will find updates, event updates, bulletin information and much more.

Stay connected! Add your e-mail address to our e-mail distribution list today by sending a note to ststephens@live.ca. You can unsubscribe at any time.

CARD GROUP

Our Card Group meets on Tuesdays at 12:45pm for an exciting afternoon of Euchre or Solo. There is a voluntary fee of \$1 and light refreshments are served. If you have any questions, please speak to Larrie Brown or Larry Kennedy.



Everyone is Welcome!

HOSPITALITY NEWS

Cards'n Games Night

Friday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. is fun and games night. Coffee, tea and cold drinks will be provided. Bring your favorite game and a snack to share if you like. Everyone is welcome to come and have a good time playing together! There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

LOOK WHAT'S NEW!.....

This spot is reserved for "My Perspective".

We are hoping that the congregation would like to share their perspective on a topic close to their heart with the rest of us. If you would like to share yours, please email the church tagged My Perspective.

This month we hear from Carolyn Wilker

Moving toward Holy Week:

Last evening my husband and I attended the final soup supper at our church for this season of Lent. It was well attended, and the numbers have grown throughout the season. We've had good conversations, eaten delicious soups and desserts, and gotten to

know more people at our new church.

Following supper, we went into the sanctuary for the service. We've made good use of Holden Evening Prayer, written in 1985-86 by Marty Haugen during a musical residency at Holden Village. After six weeks of the service we're finally mastering the round part, and that's it until next year. Hoping we use it again. I appreciate the prayerful music within it and Pastor Richard's voice carries it well.

Thus, the six weeks of Lent brings us to Palm Sunday this weekend, a celebration of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the beginning of Holy Week, as the church calls it. I think of it more as more a hellish week for Jesus, given the betrayal and pain he endured.

This poem is one I wrote years ago, pondering the sacrifice foreshadowed on Palm Sunday. The poem was first published in *Esprit* (Spring 2006), a women's magazine of the Evangelical Lutheran Women I used to write for until its closure...

Sacrifice

My borrowed beast
climbs the rocky path
treading cautiously over robes
that carpet dusty earth
shaded
by a canopy of palms
his body trembles amid shouts of
Hosanna
Such a young colt
he does not hurry –
as if he knows what is to come
outside the city gates
the crowd thins and hosannas fade
inside
a poor man empties his pocket
to buy a dove
my beast of burden can rest now
my time is coming

SENIOR BIRTHDAYS

The following are members of our congregation who are 75 years young or more. Please take a moment to wish them a happy birthday.



Donna Habermehl – May 25
Joe Seidl – May 22
Ed Bruder – May 11
Don Blum – May 30
Kathy Dahmer – May 23
Bob Channen – May 19
Jim Gardiner – May 8
Helen Asmussen – May 21

Annual Senior's Dinner

Saturday, May 4th at 11:30 a.m.

Each year, we plan a special meal for our seniors as a way to thank them and honour the work they've done in our community. It's kind of like having our grandparents for dinner and is lots of fun for those who prepare as well as those who attend. We have a brief worship at 11:30 and move to the fellowship hall for a delicious meal. Please sign up at the church, or give us a call at the office and we'll put your name on the list so that we are best able to prepare. Hope to see all our special seniors there!

Recipe for Communion Bread

Many people have asked about the recipe for the communion bread that we enjoyed at the Maundy Thursday Meal where we remembered the origins of our communion practice. Thank you Ruth Kennedy, for baking the bread this year. It was delicious!

Here's the recipe:

- 5 cups whole wheat flour
- 4 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 3 tablespoons baking powder
- 3 cups milk
- 2 cups regular white flour
- 4 tablespoons sugar
- 6 tablespoons honey
- 4 teaspoons salt

Mix flour together and stir in salt, sugar and baking powder. Mix honey and milk completely; add butter to this mixture and mix well. (This works best when liquids are heated over the stove) Add liquid mixture to flour mixture and knead; dough should be sticky. Cut into 8 portions, roll into balls and then flat round circles and score with a butter knife, making a cross in each center. Brush lightly with oil and bake in the oven at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. When loaves have cooled, they may be wrapped in foil and frozen for future use.

You are invited!

Celebrating

**50
YEARS**

*Please Join us for an
Anniversary Open House for
Bill and Rochell*

Sunday May 26th 2019

1pm – 3pm

Fellowship Hall

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

**No gifts please. There will be a loonie/toonie jar for your contributions to
MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION**

FOOD, FUN & FAITH'S last Wednesday until September will be May 29th. This ministry offers an experience similar to vacation bible school on a multigenerational basis and provides a healthy meal, creative craft time, music, bible story and faith talk. Thank-you to all who have been working on this project.

Come and see the smiles on the faces of children. The pride in making and taking home a craft that will be displayed at home. Sing with them and laugh as they sing songs of faith, and discuss faith as it is to them. And sit with them to share a meal and enjoy the community gathered.

There are ways that you can help with this. Consider donating food or craft supplies. Or perhaps you have time to offer in the kitchen, or at a craft table? We can always use more joyful volunteers!

If you are interested and would like to know more about how you can help out, please talk to Lori Hansen or Kathleen Robert.



EASTER FLOWERS

Thank you June and Maureen for organizing, and to the following who provided flowers, decorating our sanctuary **to the glory of God** this Easter morning.

Jan Lapsley in memory of Ken, Ed and Betty Forler and Chris Lapsley

Pat & Terry Delion in memory of the Delion and Goman families and Jay Goman

Donna & Joe Seidl in memory of their parents

Lynn & Don Roth in memory of George & Elaine Myers, Madeline Roth & Georgina Mayer

Wayne & June Schroeder in memory of their parents

Marlene Maguire in memory of her parents Eileen & Walter Bruder & husband Buddy Maguire

Karen Mathiasen in memory of her son Anders McLean & mother Elna Mathiasen

Larry & Ruth Kennedy in memory of their parents

Bob & Arlene Channen in memory of their parents

Michael & Mary Waite in memory of their parents

Elizabeth Hackett in memory of her parents A. Leonard & Almeda Snider

Bruce & Betty Lackenbauer

Audrey Goos in memory of her husband John Goos

Jan Weber in memory of her parents & her husband Bruce Weber

Edee & Doug Schmitt in memory of their parents George & Rose Vogt and Wally & Delores Schmitt

Rose Maier in memory of her friend Crystal

A LEGACY GIFT

We have been gifted with a legacy gift from St. Phillips at its dissolution this past year. We have approximately \$20,000 that was designated to St. Stephen as it saw fit to use. This money is the result of many ears of ministry, the blood sweat and tears of a generation of Christians who worked to love God and neighbor. In a measure of respect for this, church council has opted to take time to develop a plan for its use and invites the congregation to dream dreams of how we might use this gift best. There will be a suggestion box provided if you would like to put your suggestions in writing and sign your name to them please. All suggestions will be gratefully considered.

Church Council

70TH ANNIVERSARY NEWS

Songs of praise and joy almost raised the roof as Bob Loeb sack played the piano and led the gathering on Sunday, March 31st. It was a privilege to have Bob back as he was music director here at St. Stephens in the 60's and early 70's.

We welcomed the Stiff family and their many talents singing and playing Bluegrass Gospel. What a talented family, both in voice and in the various string instruments they played.

This afternoon was a fundraiser for Autism Ontario. To date we have raised \$1655.00, which will go to the local chapter.

Many thanks to all who came and to all who provided desserts for the fellowship time after.

Our next event... will be after Church on Sunday, June 9th. We will be having a pie auction with our own Tom Reynolds as the auctioneer. Further info will follow, so watch for sign up sheets to bake and donate pies. Pies can be of sweet or savoury, so start going through your favourite recipes.

TAKE A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

To celebrate our 70th Anniversary a small team are putting together photo boards to highlight some of our special memories and events throughout our 70-year ministry here at St. Stephen.

Take some time when you are at the church to check out these wonderful mementos of our history. These will change throughout the year, so check in often.

Thank-you to Pastor Bill Shafer, Lynn Roth, and Charlotte Kruk for the many hours of work putting these photos together. See how many people you can recognize.

Confirmation Photos

We are updating our pictures in celebration of our 70th Anniversary. We are missing photos and need your help! We need confirmation photos from the following years:

1978	1996	2007
2008	2009	2011
2013	2014	2015
2016	2017	2018

70th Anniversary Fund – has been set up to help offset costs for all people wishing to enjoy events we have planned. If you wish to contribute, please include money in your offering envelope and mark your designation with the amount on the outside.

QUILTING GROUP

The Quilting Group meets every Tuesday morning at 9:30 a.m. There are a variety of tasks that are done including organizing and piecing together material, hand stitching, tying, machine sewing and many others. **You don't have to be a sewer to be part of this dynamic group!** We hope to see you there!

Donations of **Sheets & Pillow Cases** are always needed and greatly appreciated.

WOMEN'S BOOK & PRAYER GROUP

The Women's Book and Prayer Group meets Mondays at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

You are welcome to join us. Discussion is always lively, either about the current book or any other topic that seems to present itself.

There is always room for more!



Rent-A-Book: Books can be borrowed from the book cart in the Fellowship Hall. Please put your loonie in the jar and return the book when you are done. Proceeds are directed to support our Youth Ministry.

ELW NEWS:

Marillac Place...

Once again this year we will be supporting the Marillac Place Baby Bottle Campaign. Marillac Place does not receive government funding and this is a major fund raiser for them. The campaign runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day. Pick up a baby bottle from one of the baskets in the narthex, fill it with spare change, bills, or a cheque written out to Marillac Place and return it by Father's Day. If you want a receipt, fill out the form that comes with the bottle.

Marillac Place is a home for mothers and their babies where they learn childcare, finance, and home care. They can stay for two years, after which they are helped with finding accommodation. For more information see the website at www.marillacplace.ca.

An Invitation...

On Monday, May 13 at 6:00 pm, all adults and children are invited to the ELW Spring Potluck, after which Brenda Hoerle will speak about **raising Monarch butterflies**. Come learn about the incredible journey monarchs make each year to their winter home in Mexico, and how you can help boost their population. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for those attending the potluck. Bring your favourite potluck dish and enjoy the speaker and the camaraderie. If you

wish to come only for the speaker, come at 7:00 pm. Martha group is in charge. Hope to see you there!

Auxiliary of Martin Lutheran College University

During May envelopes will be available for yearly donations. Monies are used to support clinical studies for seminarians as well as beautification of the grounds of MLUC. Cheques should be made payable to St. Stephen.

OUTREACH NEWS:

April 27 is the final Saturday Supper at the Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church. Every fourth Saturday of the month from November to April a wonderful group of volunteers have given their time to make a community supper a great experience for all. I want to thank everyone who gave of their time and their love to help make the dinner a meaningful experience for all. We will start again in November.

On April 17, several volunteers attended the CLWR Baling Days in Wallenstein. They brought along the lovely quilts, dresses, teddy bears, etc., which were lovingly handcrafted by members of our congregation. Thank you to everyone who participated in this annual event.

May will be our Spring Food Drive for the Food Bank. Please keep the Food Bank in mind when doing your grocery shopping.

Used Batteries

If you have been collecting used batteries (of all kinds) faithfully, but don't know where to dispose of them in a stewardly fashion....here is the answer for you..... Place them in the 'used batteries' drawer in the Narthex. They will be taken to Laurentian Hills Christian School in Kitchener, where senior students sort them for their final destination – an official recycling center. Plus it's a fundraiser for the school! This is a win-win-win and it helps a Christian school!

MUSIC NOTES

There was much to be thankful for in the musical life of St. Stephen in April. The Rocks led us in a rollicking service on Palm Sunday. The handbells played at the end of the month. We are grateful for the new bells. Thank you to all the participants in both groups. Your faithfulness and enthusiasm are appreciated. Thank you to the choir for their participation in the Good Friday and Easter Sunday services as well as other Sundays. All the preparation was worth it!

The choir will sing a few times in May. The handbells will play again at the end of the month.

We will have a guest trumpeter on May 5 – Deb Lacoste. She last played here in September. Deb teaches a course in music history periodically at local universities. She also teaches trumpet privately and is involved with early music and chant, managing *CANTUS: a Database for Latin Ecclesiastical Chant*. She is a member of the *Full House Brass Quintet* and the *Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra*.

On Saturday, May 4, Menno Singers and the Mennonite Mass Choir will present Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" at St. Peter's Lutheran Church at 7:30 pm. The Waterloo Chamber Players will accompany the choir. Elizabeth Hackett and Carolyn Warnica are both singing in this concert. Tickets are \$30 and can be obtained through one of us or at the door.

Peace,

Elizabeth Hackett

OTHER NEWS & INFORMATION

Bridges Vacation Bible School

"To Mars and Beyond: Explore where God's Power Can Take You!"

July 8 to 12, 2019 at Martin Luther University College from 9am to 4pm each day.

For more information visit:

bridgesvbs.weebly.com

updates: www.facebook.com/bridgesvbs

more info: bridgesvbs@gmail.com

volunteers: bridgesvbs.volunteer@gmail.com

Photo Directory

Our Photo Directory is now being published using PowerChurch. If you would like a copy, please let us know.

Photos can be added / changed any time you want and when the directory is printed an updated photo will appear. To submit a photo:

- email it in to us at ststephens@live.ca
- bring it in on a memory card or CD
- send / bring in the printed picture and we will scan it into the computer

Thank-you to everyone who has submitted pictures thus far.

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

Joint Area Confirmation Youth Activity

Days are planned with activities based on grade 7 & 8 age group. However, all ages of youth are welcome to attend after confirmation. There will be lots to do that will be meaningful and great learning too.

May 11th, 2019- Trip to Six Nations

Youth Group Events:

We have three youth groups:

- ✓ **Junior Youth:** grades 4,5 & 6
- ✓ **Senior Youth:** grades 7,8 & 9 +
- ✓ **CLAY Youth** 14-19 years old in 2020 will meet for fundraising and other activities

Youth Group Event

- Who? Junior & Senior Youth
- What? When? Check Youth Board
- Watch for Garage Sales News!



We are Collecting!!!

- Buttons – all shapes & sizes
- Scrabble tiles
- Clay pots of different sizes

MAY 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr-28	29	30	May 1 Mill/Courtland Network Mtg. 9:30 a.m. - 12	2 6pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Senior Choir	3	4 Seniors Dinner 11:30 a.m.
5 8 am Worship 10am Worship & Sunday School	6 10:00am Woman's Book Club	7 9:30 Quilting 12:45 Card Group 1pm Outreach	8 10am Worship service @ Laurelwood Ct,	9 6pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Senior Choir	10	11 Confirmation Youth (Six Nations)
12 "Rocks" 8am Worship 10am Worship & Sunday School	13 10:00am Woman's Book Club 6pm ELW Spring Potluck	14 9:30 Quilting 12:45 Card Group	15	16 6pm Bell Choir 7:30 Senior Choir	17	18
19 8am Worship 10am Worship & Sunday School	20 10:00am Woman's Book Club Articles & info for June Enlightener are due today!	21 9:30 Quilting 12:45 Card Group 1pm Outreach	22	23 6pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Senior Choir	24 Women's Ministry Retreat (Niagara-on- the-Lake)	25 Women's Ministry Retreat (Niagara-on- the-Lake)
26 8am Worship 10am Worship & Sunday School Women's Retreat Bill&Rochell Shafer 50 th Anniversary	27 10:00am Woman's Book Club	28 9:30 Quilting 12:45 Card Group	29 5pm Food, Fun & Faith	30 6pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Senior Choir	31	June 1