

Staying Connected

Always Connected to God, Each Other and the World

Current Worship Opportunities during COVID-19 Pandemic

SUNDAYS 9:30 AM Worship Options

In person in Sanctuary – This option is currently not available per our Safety Committee. We will revisit this possibility in the coming month. Thank you for your patience!

Online Live streamed on St. Stephen's Face Book

From your car in either parking lot. Broadcasted via 87.9 FM / Communion brought to car

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 PM Online "The Well" St. Stephen's Face Book

WEEKDAYS Varying times Channel 16—Comcast (Sunday 9:30 am Service Recorded)



Ash Wednesday—February 17

In keeping with tradition, St Stephen's will have two services on **Ash Wednesday 11am and 7pm** however adhering to our COVID-19 protocols currently in effect, these services will not be in-person they will be streamed on our St Stephen's Face-book page. You can find them at the same location where you find the Sunday worship services. <https://www.facebook.com/sslcwsp/live/>. Once premiered, they will be archived so you can watch them anytime that works for you. In addition, the two services will be broadcasted via FM radio at 87.9 FM if you chose to listen from you car in either parking lot at 11am or 7pm.

We recognize that "ashes" and communion are sacred elements of our Ash Wednesday worship services. Though we are unable to offer in person worship we feel we can safely provide ashes and communion to those that wish to stop by the church to pick up the elements and if you wish can stay for the broadcasted service to the parking lots. On Ash Wednesday Pastor John will be available **9-10:30am** and again from **5:30-7pm** to administer ashes. Communion and "ashes" kits will be distributed to your cars in the parking lot by volunteers for the 11am and 7pm in the same fashion as Sunday mornings.



Wednesdays during Lent (February 24-March 24) 7pm Facebook

For this season of Lent at St Stephen's we are using the eight biblical Stations of the Cross as a framework for our worship, including Scripture readings, meditations, music and prayers. Beginning on Ash Wednesday and concluding on Good Friday, we will follow Jesus along the *Via Dolorosa*, the Way of Sorrow, as he journeys from Pilate's Hall to his death on the cross, meditating on one station each service. We enter this journey with the penitent's prayer, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." (Psalm 139:23-24) We pray that you find peace and be blest by these reflections on God's grace and gift of love. Amen.

Wednesday evening services will be pre-recorded premiering on our Facebook page at 7pm. These services will not be broadcasted to the parking lots. DVD copies will be available upon request. Bulletins will be posted to our website under the resources tab.

Contemplative Prayer and Study Continues via Zoom

2nd & 4th Wednesdays (Feb. 10 & 24) St. Stephen's Zoom Room 7-8 pm - All are welcome.

Zoom Meeting ID: 380-950-620 Password: 55118

We have returned to the basics of Contemplative Prayer, using the book "**Centering Prayer and Inner Awakening**" by **Cynthia Bourgeault**. This is a prayer practice that will renew your life. Please read through Chapters 5 & 6 for discussion on February 10.

SERMON CONVERSATION WITH PASTOR TIM



Looking ahead to our conversation on Sunday, I find myself thinking that there are so many important things going on it's helpful to just start by naming categories. For example, what are you seeing in these areas?

- Politics
- Social Change
- The Economy
- The Environment
- Technology
- Spirituality and the Church

I suspect our tendency is to take note of problems first, so you may want to run through the list again and specifically think about the *good* things you're seeing there.

For the first part of our conversation, we'll simply be naming things that we see - no need to evaluate, defend or explain - like a brainstorming exercise. After that, we can take a step back and see what it's like to take it all in. And finally, I hope we can make a start at opening up the question; "Where is the Church in the midst of all this?" Or perhaps... where does the Church *need* to be!

Hope to see you this Sunday! Pastor Tim

Via Zoom <https://bit.ly/SSLC-FH>, or go to 916-4811-8852 in your Zoom app.

LOAVES AND FISHES

So much has changed in the past year, but one thing that continues on is our Loaves and Fishes program. Each month a group of volunteers from St. Stephen's serves a meal to people in need over at St. Matthew's church. The number of people they serve each month has doubled in the past year.

Much of the money to pay for these meals was donated through our "Pots and Pans" offerings for Loaves and Fishes. Those special offerings haven't been held since we aren't worshipping in person at church.

On Sunday, February 21 from 10:30 to 11:30am we will be having a **drive-by Pots and Pans offering**. Just drive into the Charlton parking lot and someone will gladly come out to your car with a kettle for you to drop in your donation. [Of course you can always send a check to the church, made out to St. Stephen's with Loaves and Fishes o the memo line.](#) You can also give on the giving tab of the church's website.

Thank you for continuing to support this important ministry. - The Missions Committee

FAITH FAMILIES

This coming week we will be learning about **Moses Confronts Pharaoh**

Read Exodus 7:1-12:42. Who was affected by Pharaoh's decisions? Why do you think Pharaoh changed his mind?

Pray "help others" prayers this week, focusing on people who are living in an unsafe place due to violence, war, poverty, or another injustice. Write the name of each person or group of people on a stone or paper heart and place it in a jar as a reminder.

Listen to a Louis Armstrong version of the African American spiritual "Go Down, Moses" on YouTube.

Additional activities can be found on the "Family Fun" page in the Early Childhood and Primary Leaflets.



WAPO 2021 YOUTH-REGISTER NOW!

St Stephen's has reserved 20 spaces for the week of **June 20-25, 2021 for our Youth** and 4 spaces for **July 18-20, 2021 at WAPO for Seeds.**

Registration is now open and continues through February 28. After that time our reserved spots are opened up to the general population. So please register NOW so we can all be together! Register on the WAPO website <https://lakewapo.org/>. If you have questions please contact Ali (ali@ststephenswsp.org)



Online Connection Card Reminder—

The online connection card is another avenue for folks to connect with pastors, staff or church office. Designed to be an aide while watching Worship or The Well online via FaceBook the card can be found at <http://bit.ly/SSLC-CCard>.



ST STEPHEN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Connecting to God, each other and the world

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Thank You for your Support of our St. Stephen's Ministries ♥

By Mail | Online thru St Stephen's website | GIVE+Text (Text 844-907-2702) | GivePlus Vanco Mobile App

PLEASE NOTE: Links included in the eUpdate are not active—watch for a separate email that contains resources available and active links all in one handy document.