

St. Stephen's Rambler

June 2011



When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. – Acts 2:1-4 (NRSV)

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! Although it might just be your birthday, I am really speaking to the entire Christian Church, for this month we celebrate a most sacred church day – Pentecost. This day marks the beginning, or one might say the birth, of the Christian Church when the Holy Spirit was first given to believers. We celebrate this day fifty days after Easter, thus the title Pentecost, which means “the fiftieth day.”

In our Lutheran tradition we decorate our worship space with red, signifying the “fire” of the Holy Spirit witnessed on the very first day of Pentecost some 2000 years ago. So our paraments, my stole and even the flowers are red. I encourage all of you attending services on June 12th to wear something red as a reminder of this special day.

We know through the gospels, especially the gospel of John, that the Holy Spirit – the Advocate – plays an ongoing and vital role in the lives of all believers. It is with the help of the Holy Spirit that we can: hear God’s calling, be strengthened in our faith, and live a Christ-like life. In the one Spirit we are baptized into one body, and at the Lord’s Table the Spirit unites us for witness in the world. Come Holy Spirit and unite us as one body of Christ to do our Heavenly Father’s will!

It is an exciting time to be a part of St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church; where Jesus is Lord, everybody is somebody, and faith is living in God’s grace!

In His Grip,
Pastor Tracy



**YOUTH CAR WASH – Saturday, June 4th
10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

From Council President, Karen Shifty:

May has been so wet. It was supposed to be "April showers, bring May flowers", but now its "May showers bring June flowers"-- so does that mean June flowers bring pilgrims? (Old joke.) Anyway, we really needed that moisture. Since I'm writing this before the May 21st property landscape day I can only hope that we can see improvements on the site's landscaping. We will probably need more work as the summer comes along. Look for project days announced by Yvonne and come pitch in.



We welcomed three new adult members with our confirmation class: Eric Rash, Morgan Neely and Tony Pierce. Welcome, guys! And we wish to congratulate High School graduate, Jared Domben.

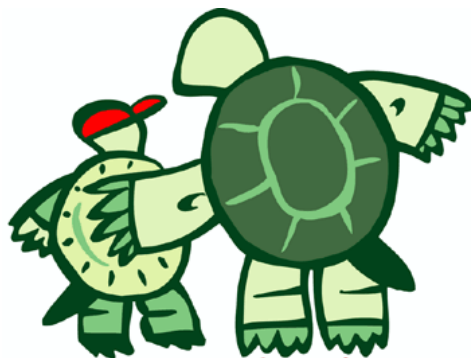
We are getting into vacation time. A time to relax and have a change of scene or get those jobs that have been piling up done. If you visit a church while on vacation, bring back a bulletin and we'll post them on the bulletin boards. Then we can see where everyone has been traveling. Please do remember that St. Stephen's will be operating as usual so mail in your offerings. Thanks.

We have had a break-in at the old church building. Combined with the vandalism on the light poles, we seem to be a prime location for mischief. When you drive by the church give it an extra visual once over. Maybe through vigilance we can help prevent any more damage. We will be looking into some sort of security. If you have any ideas let the council hear them.

Have a safe and happy summer.

In Joy and peace,

Karen Shifty



Happy Father's Day

L³ Book Group

St. Stephen's book club, L³ (Literature, Love, and Laughter) meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 11:30 am at Perkins Restaurant at 120th and Huron. Everyone is welcome.

June 7: Steam, Steel, and Statutes, True Tales from Colorado Legal History by Frank Gibbard
(Yes, Frank Gibbard of St. Stephen's!)
Nominated for the Colorado Book Award!

Please join us! We have the honor to have Frank Gibbard attend this meeting to share more information about his book and answer any questions we might have. For a copy of this book, please contact Frank.



Centering Prayer

Beginning Thursday, June 16, 9:30 - 10:30 AM -St. Stephen's Church, lower level, all are welcome to join the group to learn about and practice Centering Prayer. This method of prayer casts a new light and depth in prayer. It is at the same time a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship. It was developed by Father Thomas Keating. We will meet weekly to listen to DVD' s of Father Keating's lessons. For more information and to obtain Father's Keating's first book in the trilogy on Centering Prayer, Open Mind, Open Heart, contact Ed Sears, 720-872-2603 or Cyndi Skillings, 303-450-0967. The book is not a requirement for the class. The sign up sheet is posted in the narthex.

Pandabulous VBS!!!



June 20th – 24th from 6:00 - 8:30 pm. Children ages 3 years through 5th grade are invited to come have a Bamboo Blast!!! The cost is \$5 per child - \$20 max. per family. We still need helpers for many of the stations, especially for the pre-school area. Please also consider donating supplies. (See the "VBS Needs" bulletin board in the narthex.) Those who have already signed up - we appreciate your servant hearts! Stop by our registration table to see how you can join our team, and make a difference in the lives of children this summer. VBS Co-Directors: Kathi Hinkel (720-872-8246) and Vicki Padilla (303-452-7877).

Toddler Room Helper

Looking for a new opportunity to help out at St. Stephen's? Consider working in the Toddler Room on Sunday mornings from 10:15 to 11:45. Please see Kathi Hinkel if you are willing to help once or twice a month. Thanks.



The Altar Guild will have their annual non-meeting meeting on Thursday, June 30th at 6:30pm in the basement. It will be a salad and dessert potluck. Everyone interested in learning more about the Altar Guild is invited.

Grocery Purchase Program

Every family must buy groceries, fuel and/or prescriptions. We have a unique opportunity here at St. Stephen's to help with special projects or needs through the purchase of King Soopers and Safeway gift card purchases. You receive full value for these cards and your church gains 5% of the proceeds. Each \$100 purchased equals \$5 to the church's special projects. The key fob for Albertson's nets the church 1%. Thanks to all who use each of these programs. Buy the cards or pick-up a key fob after each Sunday service in the narthex.

Special Blessings

St. Stephen's Members: I am on a treasure hunt! Guess who has something with which they can help? YOU!! I am seeking your God-given TIME and TALENT! Will you share your special blessings?



If you did not receive, complete, or return a green "2011 Share Your Gifts" information survey during our recent stewardship drive, would you please take one from the table in the narthex and fill it out? Please return it to the church office when completed.

These forms await you and offer *more than 50 ways* to share your blessings!

Your Stewardship Chair Representative,
Pat Peterson (303-287-0704)

Coffee Shop Help Needed!

EITHER Saturday evening pickup from the Atlanta Bread Co. from 8:45 to approximately 10:00 pm OR Sunday morning working the Coffee Shop from 8:45 am to around noon. PLEASE consider helping out in this important ministry. Even if you can help out once every two months, it would be a BIG help and prevent the closing of the Coffee Shop. **Training is provided.** The calendar for sign-up is in the kitchenette.



Special Thanks

The Women's Ministry Tea was a great success thanks to so many helping hands. Cyndi Skillings, Karen Shifty, Yvonne Lehman, Julie Walker, Joell Swanson, Roberta Boitano, and Alley Hawthorne all worked diligently to prepare the delicious food and all the clean-up, too. Special thanks to our youth: Destiny Hager and Eric Rash, who worked tirelessly to help us prepare, clean up, and serve our guests!



Thanks to Adrian Miller for acquiring our speaker, Lois Ann Groves, a Pillsbury Bake-Off Grand Prize Winner, who shared her famous recipe and her story. Thanks, also, Adrian, and Adriana Gibbard for entertaining us with your beautiful music. Thank you to Roberta Boitano and Joell Swanson for making the floral teapot centerpieces that were given as door prizes. Sharon Thomas, thanks for sharing your wonderful hat collection with our guests. We want to thank all those who attended and we look forward to seeing you at next year's annual tea! St. Stephen's is truly blessed to have such an awesome group of women!



Lutheran Family Services of Colorado has updated its website. We invite you to check it out and learn about our services and how you might partner with us to provide healing, strength and hope to the vulnerable people of our communities: www.lfsc.org.

Join Us for a ZOO-B-Q!

Where: Denver Zoo

When: Friday, June 10th - 6:30pm - 9:30pm

What: This is a special event designed to provide a wonderful adventure for you and your family and to raise funds for assisting the vulnerable people in our community. The zoo is reserved exclusively for LFS!



Tickets: Adults (13 & up) \$16, Children (3-12) \$11, Children (0-2) Free. Registration includes a Classic American BBQ, Old Fashioned Carousel Rides, Face Painting, Magician & other entertainment! To register, visit www.lfsc.org. You MUST Pre-Register - no tickets will be sold at the gate.



Register now for Rainbow Trail!

Senior High (entering 9th through 12th grade)

Junior High (entering 7th and 8th grade)

Juniors (entering 4th through 6th grade)

and Intros (entering 2nd and 3rd grade)

Register Now!

www.rainbowtrail.org

For more information, see Adrian Miller.



**Rocky Mountain Region of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Habitat for Humanity
announces home-building award for 2010**

Thanks to nearly 450,000 members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and local Lutheran congregations joining forces with Habitat for Humanity affiliates, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity has helped more than 2,500 families in the U.S. and around the world to achieve the dream of homeownership.

Thrivent Financial announces ongoing commitment in 2011

Thrivent Financial has announced that it will continue to support Thrivent Builds with a \$10.4 million commitment in 2011 – which means its total commitment over six years will surpass \$150 million! This generous support will result in the construction of an additional 164 homes in 33 states. The Rocky Mountain Region of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Habitat for Humanity has been awarded 18 homes with Thrivent Builds because of that 2011 commitment.

From the first nail to the last, building a home through Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity is a profound experience. It's not just concrete and wood, its tears and smiles, born of hard work and faith. And it's the knowledge that you've helped change lives.

To get involved, call Al Horton at 303-241-5305 or visit ThriventBuilds.com.

*If you have a prayer request that you would like to submit, please contact Lois Ferguson,
Member Care Council Liaison. (303-920-1040 or lois.annf@comcast.net)*

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

The family of Bob Lipinski, who died May 4th. Bob was a long-time member of St. Stephen's. He will be missed.

The family of Rod Aldinger, who died the week of May 16th. Rod and his mother, Elsie, were members of Valley Lutheran and have been worshipping with us at St. Stephen's.

Sherry Wightman, who was in an accident at work the week of May 16th and broke her leg in two places. She has a long recovery ahead.



Lay Reader Lessons

Please check the bulletin board in the narthex
for the June Lay Reader Lessons.
Thank you for serving!

Congratulations, Graduates!

Jared Domben

Northglenn High School, May 16th

Dorothy Holtam's Granddaughters:

Katie

High School

Christine

College - graduated Magna Cum Laude

Lorraine & Carl Bumbal's Granddaughters:

Anne Pedersen

Mountain Range High School, May 18th
(will attend CSU in the fall)

Stephanie Johnson

University of Colorado, May 14th
(received her Master's Degree)



Welcome
Our New
Members

(Received on May 22nd)

Karl and Alisha Hager, and their children
Destiny, Haleigh, Ashton, Karson, and Mason.
and
Will Sullivan

Welcome to St. Stephen's!

Happy Birthday!

June 1: Yvonne Lehman

June 3: Kim Walczyk

June 10: Kyra Arnold
Char Monahan

June 12: Colleen Campbell
Vicki Padilla

June 13: Angela Bustos

June 14: Dot Fox

June 15: David Pocs

June 22: Jack Monahan

June 24: Carol Domben

June 25: Dale Domben

June 26: Stacy Padilla
Ken Walczyk

June 28: William Arnold
Lois Ferguson
Curt Williams

Happy Anniversary!

June 3: Amy & David Burke

June 10: Adrian & Andy Miller

June 11: Cyndi & Russ Skillings

June 12: Beth & Michael Hewes

June 15: Shirley & George Magnuson

June 24: Colleen & Al Campbell
Joell & Larry Swanson

June 27: Madeline & Leonard Lehman



Congratulations to the 2011 Confirmands:

Eric Rash, Morgan Neely, and Tony Pierce



July "Rambler" deadline: June 15th

If you prefer to have the Rambler mailed to your home address, please contact the church office.

CHURCH STAFF

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Pastor - Tracy Hinkel	303-452-5469 / pastor@ssl.org
Congregation President - Karen Shifty	303-469-0663 / gwi46@cs.com
Office Manager - Sara Burchard	303-452-5469 / office@ssl.org
Choir Director / Bell Choir Director - Russ Skillings	303-450-0967 / rskills@aol.com
Contemporary Worship Leader - Adrian Miller	303-255-1396 / amillers@comcast.net
Organists/Accompanists	
Janet Miller	303-431-9837 / jan7752@comcast.net
Chris Gibbard	303-255-2262 / fcgibbard@msn.com
Charles Knutson	303-860-9025 / charlesaknutson@msn.com
Youth Director	
Beth Hewes	303-653-3536 / youth@ssl.org
MINISTRY LEADERS:	
Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) - Vicki Padilla	303-452-7877 / padilla_vicki@yahoo.com
Stephen Ministry Leader - Cyndi Skillings	303-450-0967 / ciskills@aol.com
Women's Ministry	
Cyndi Skillings, Coordinator	303-450-0967 / ciskills@aol.com
Joell Swanson, Coordinator	303-452-3541

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.