



WELCOME TO *St. Stephen the Martyr, ELCA*

Service Times: Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - 9:30 a.m.

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## *the* MARTYR MONTHLY

# *St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church, ELCA*

6101 South 51st Street  
 Greendale, WI 53129  
 PHONE & FAX: 421-3543  
 E-MAIL: [ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com)  
[www.StStephenTheMartyr.com](http://www.StStephenTheMartyr.com)  
 OFFICE HOURS:  
 9-2 M-Th  
 9-12 F

### SSM STAFF

Gail Brodersen-Heins, Pastor  
[pastorgail@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:pastorgail@ststephenthemartyr.com)  
 Christopher Owen, Music Director  
[cowen@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:cowen@ststephenthemartyr.com)  
 Kevan Penrose, Discipleship Coach for Family  
 Ministries  
[stillers7@yahoo.com](mailto:stillers7@yahoo.com)  
 Lynda Shadd, Office Administrator  
[ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com)  
 Bob Brownell, Maintenance  
 Bob De Frank, Sunday School Superintendent  
 Janet Snyder, Organist



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God blessed America, so that we  
 could be a blessing to others.  
 Have a blessed Fourth of July!

### PASTOR GAIL'S COMPUTER NOTES...

I have just had the pleasure of a brief trip to New York city, enjoying the sounds and sights, including great architecture, visiting 'Ground Zero', delicious food, two musical plays, watching people from all over the world, listening to the sounds of many languages, worshipping at St. Peter Lutheran Church in the heart of Manhattan, and the top attraction for me and my friend Ruth: the wonderful artwork at museums and galleries.

Vincent Van Gogh is one of our favorite artists. We saw quite a bit of his work at two galleries. He was the son of a Calvinist minister in Holland, and had a deep concern for the poor. For awhile, he served as a lay missionary among poverty-stricken coal miners. His early paintings show his intense feeling for the poor. His sensitive nature and tendency toward depression led him to paint. He especially showed brilliance for color. Bright fields of wheat, haystacks, colorful sunflowers and irises, starry nights, portraits of men and women and the artist himself fill your eye and your mind with delight. Van Gogh speaks to the viewer with a faith that reflects a God who gives us spectacular beauty in nature. The artist was given a great gift which he shared and we are the better for it. My spirit is fed by art like Van Gogh's.

In this beautiful summertime, we can enjoy nature itself and the gifts that we and others have been given. What gifts unique to you are you using right now? What gifts are you trying, with God's help, to develop? Without working too hard (after all, this is summer!) explore your God-given gifts. Like Van Gogh, be creative! Try new ways of expressing yourself. Look at the world and give thanks for it. Enjoy beauty and explore it. This time of year is for re-creation. Let God continue to create life in you.

See you at worship!

Your partner in the Gospel,

*Pastor Gail Brodersen-Heins*

*Don't Forget To Attend Church This Summer! Please try to visit a church where you are vacationing—bring back a bulletin to share with us!*

#### **HELP SSM KEEP OUR RECORDS UP TO DATE:**

Are you moving? Do you have an address, phone number e-mail or status change, a new addition in your family? Don't forget to contact your church to report any changes for your family records. Would you like to receive the Martyr Monthly via email? Go to [www.ststephenthemartyr.com](http://www.ststephenthemartyr.com) to sign up! Let the office know if you want to discontinue receiving the hard copy. Would you like to receive the Martyr Monthly in your church mailbox? Call the office @ 414-421-3543 or email us at [ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com).

## **Stewardship**

*Using the gifts God*

*has given us...*

*to do the work God*

*has called us to do.*

The thought of Stewardship emphasis any time other than the fall may confuse some people who think that Stewardship is only about money and budget. It is true that Stewardship is about money, but it is a whole lot more than money. It is also about managing our time and talents for God's purposes. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ. As you enjoy your summer, please remember your church... for the expenses continue. Your time and talents are also needed and coveted. Thank you for being a blessing to St. Stephen the Martyr.

~ The Stewardship Committee

#### **FATHER OF LIGHTS—A HYMN OF CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP**

Words by Elizabeth Wilson & Helen Thoburn,

Music by J Albert Jeffrey

Father of lights, in Whom there is no shadow,  
Giver of every good and perfect gift!  
With one accord we seek Thy holy presence,  
Gladly our hearts to Thee in praise we lift.

Glad for the cause that binds our lives together,  
Through Thee united, worshiping as one;  
Glad for the crowning gift that Thou hast given,  
Sending, to light the world, Thine only Son.

Light of the world, through Whom we know the Father!  
Pour out upon us Thine abiding love,  
That we may know its depth and height and splendor,  
That heaven may come to earth from heaven above.

Thou art the Christ! To Thee we own allegiance.  
May our devotion sweep from sea to sea,  
Even as we, the gift from Thee receiving,  
Joyfully minister that gift for Thee.

Women of the ELCA 



#### **Women of the ELCA - SSM Women's Ministry News**

July 's Bible study will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, July 11th, at 10:15 am, and our Loose Ends luncheon following. All ladies are invited as we study the following Sunday's Scripture texts.

We will then be meeting for lunch at *Applebees on 13th & Rawson in Oak Creek*. We will leave church at 11:30 am for those carpooling, and meet at the restaurant at 11:45 a.m. Please sign up on the kiosk and indicate if you will need a ride from your home or if you want to car-pool from church. Any questions, call Karen Miller, 761-1455.

#### **"CREATED GOOD"**

##### **Pine Lake Women's Retreat - August 17-19, 2007**

Enjoy a weekend away with a caring community of friends and enjoy the Pine Lake experience.

We invite you to join us at Pine Lake Camp, located in the northern woods near Waupaca, Wisconsin. The weekend starts with a light supper on Friday, ends with lunch on Sunday, and costs \$81. There will be a late fee for registrations received after July 28. Registration forms can be found on the kiosk under Women of the ELCA. Scholarships to help defray the cost of attending camp are available. Any questions... call Sue Jarchow, who is the Camp Dean for this event, at 414-421-9031 or Carole Ropel at 262-523-4130.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE 2007 CONVENTION OF THE  
GR. MILW. SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORG. - WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

...being held on October 12-13 at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Greendale. Carol Birk will represent you as this year's delegate from St. Stephen the Martyr. Joyce Ellwanger, Ako Hasegawa, Emily Heath, Pastor Jennifer Thomas and Marilyn Miller are among the workshop presenters. Registration begins at 4 p.m. on Friday, the 12<sup>th</sup>, followed by the evening banquet. Worship, workshops, a luncheon and business sessions will take place on Saturday. Take advantage of the "Early Bird Special" price of \$65 if you register before July 30<sup>th</sup>. Registration forms and Scholarship forms will be post on the kiosk. See the June issue of the *Gleanings*, also posted on the kiosk, or call Carole Ropel 262-523-4130, for more information.

### Come Quilt With Us

Our next Quilter's Meeting is 6:30 pm., July 19<sup>th</sup>. (Note the date change from July 12<sup>th</sup>) Please bring your scissors, rippers, cutting mats and rotary cutters. Stay as long as you are able, leave when you must.

## AN OVERVIEW OF THE GREATER MILWAUKEE SYNOD ASSEMBLY

JUNE 1-2, 2007

On June 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, Pastor Gail, SSM members Shelly Lubus and Sue Jarchow attended the 2007 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly held at Ascension Lutheran Church. The two days started out by attending pre-assembly workshops with stories from Meru, Tanzania, the Hurricane Katrina disaster and recovery, reviving faith and discerning spiritual gifts, reviving discipleship through the stewardship of lives, revival stories of El Salvador, principles for overcoming poverty to global change, plus many other subjects.

In the evening, there was a very spiritual worship service led by Reverend Ken Wheeler, followed by Reverend Pat Keen of Bethlehem Lutheran of New Orleans delivering an awesome sermon on 'Revival or Renewal' in the church. His message was "If we keep doing what we've always done, we'll always get the same results" and "we most importantly give people a message of hope and a personal relationship with Jesus." He challenged each of us to set goals of bringing 10 new members to each of our congregations. There was special music provided by choirs from other churches in the Milwaukee area.

On Saturday, new synod council members were voted in, many resolutions that needed voting on such as identifying health care professionals in the communities, evaluating ecological standing, and the meaning of Scripture.

After lunch, the Bible study led by Reverend Dudley Riggle inspired us to "keep open hearts and minds-looking for the revival in everything. We often find ourselves loving things and using people." There was recognition of outgoing synod staff members. The evening started off with a closing worship service leading to the recognition of 25 and 50 year ordination anniversaries, Lutheran Social Services 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Lutheran Campus Ministry's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

~ Submitted by Sue Jarchow

## FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

### Faithful Families

Reminder to parents: contact Kevan to sign up a time for one of our adult leaders in family ministries to visit with your family this summer. These important conversations will direct our ministry together for the coming year in two ways:

1. Talking to your family about how you all intentionally share your faith with one another so that *home is church too*; and
2. (for families with youth entering grades 7-12,) design a plan for your child's participation in family ministries that is specific to his/her unique gifts, faith journey, circumstances, schedule, etc. so that *church is a living partnership between the congregation and the home*.

### Thank You Nursery Volunteers!

You might have noticed that we now have a devoted group of adult volunteers to staff our nursery during the 9:30 worship. Please feel free to utilize their help for your children ages 0 - 3. What a positive difference they are making on Sunday mornings for our visitors and families! Thank you, volunteers!

### REVOLUTION! Update

We have decided to take a break from our regularly scheduled REVOLUTION! events on the first and third Sundays of each month this summer. Instead, we will gather together randomly as our schedules permit. So call Kevan if you have a day in mind when you'd like to have a REVOLUTION! We'll return to our regular schedule in September.

### 3-4-5 TO PASSING ON THE FAITH

(from *Frogs without Legs Can't Hear* by David W. Anderson & Paul Hill)

The next in the series that we will look at is: **where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too**. In this article, we are going back to look at the teachings of the Israelites in Deuteronomy 6:4-9 where they are instructed by Moses to love God with everything they can, their heart, soul and might. Everything that they have in themselves that they can control. This is after being given the ten commandments out in the wilderness. We can learn from these Bible verses and love God with everything that we can control in our lives. They are instructed, like we should do ourselves, to keep all the Lord's commandments in our hearts. Teach them to our children in numerous ways as they grow up. The commandments are a firm foundation in their lives that they can go to in good times and fall back on in times of trouble. We are to teach them continually, both at home and away from home, because as we all know, everyone learns by example and we joke at the old adage of 'do as I say, not as I do' but it should not be so among us. We should do as we say!

Just as the Israelites were instructed to bind God's laws on their hands and foreheads, on the doorposts of their house and the gates to their property, we need to have God's laws in front of us all the time, bound to our hearts

and minds. These were to serve as constant reminders to love and obey the God who created us and everything else that we can and can't see. In the same way, when we are working on several projects at once, if it isn't in front of us we tend to forget about them until something reminds us that we need to work on them again. Hide God's word in your heart!

*Until Next Time,  
Tim Falksen*

Contact our Discipleship Coach, Kevan Penrose: 414-258-0858 [stillerz7@yahoo.com](mailto:stillerz7@yahoo.com)

## FELLOWSHIP NEWS

### Rally Day Is Coming!

Mark your calendars! **Rally Day is Sunday, September 9, 2007.**

Join us for the beginning of Sunday Church School and to kick off the fall season. The worship service will be held outdoors (weather permitting) beginning at 9:30 a.m. with an indoor picnic following the service. Watch for details in your August Martyr Monthly newsletter.

*Please call Shelly Rosenstock at 769-7067 if you are interested in becoming a member of the Fellowship Committee.*



### Shepherd's corner Library News

This summer, make it a point to stop in with your children at the church library. We have a great supply of Christian children's and adult's books & videos.

Sign up for reading one of the books on the cart in the narthex, or take a book out from the library and learn more about your faith this summer...

*Proverbs 2:10 "For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul."*

## Music & Worship

If you desire to adorn our worship with flowers from a floral shop or a bouquet of your own garden flowers during the summer months, please write your name on the Flower Chart on the office door and specify the month and week that you will be providing flowers. Also, please write a brief note stating whether the offering is in memory of a loved one or to commemorate a special occasion in the family. You can bring your flowers in on the Friday morning before worship during office hours.

### MUSIC CORNER

As we enter into this summer season, we would like *you* to share in the experience of worship with a variety of musical opportunities and events in the life of your congregation.

### SUMMER CHOIR

Did you ever think about joining the choir, but you weren't sure choir was right for you? Afraid of making a long term time commitment due to a busy work or family schedule? Then **Summer Choir** is right for you! Summer choir will sing on the following Sundays:

**Sunday, July 8**

**Sunday, July 29**

**Sunday, August 19**

There is no weekly rehearsal for summer choir. We meet at 9 am in the Sanctuary to go over the anthem for that morning.

No previous experience is necessary and everyone is welcome!! Come to one, or come to all! Give it a try!

### SUMMER HYMN-SING!

Have you ever said to yourself, "I wish we would sing this hymn or that hymn?" Now you have an opportunity to have some input. Several times this summer, we will begin our worship with the opportunity to sing some of the congregation's (that means you!) favorite hymns.

### Summer Hymn-Sing Dates are:

Sat. & Sunday 7/14-15, Sat. & Sunday 7/28-29, Sat. & Sunday, 8/11-12

Sat. & Sunday 8/25-26.

*We will gather in worship at 4:50 pm on Saturday and 9:20 am on Sunday on the dates that the hymn-sings take place.*

## SPECIAL MUSIC

If you would like to provide **Special Music** at worship during the summer months—solos, duets, small groups, etc. we welcome your musical talent! Christopher will be happy to provide accompaniment if needed. Please talk to him if interested or email him at [cowen@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:cowen@ststephenthemartyr.com).

## King's Kids Summer Choir

Join us every Sunday following the 9:30 a.m. service in the sanctuary for a special summer kids' choir - **rehearsals start July 15th. Kids in 1st—6th grades**



Come to see two of your church members; artist Sherry Wagner and painter, Sally Chadwick. Sherry's art work, which is painted by Sally, has been recognized for 30 years in Door County. Sherry will be the featured artist at the Riptide Seafood Bar & Grill in the Historic Third Ward, Summer Gallery Night.

*The event will be held Friday night,  
July 27, 4-9 & Sat. July 28th from 11-5.*



Stop in to see their nautical wall creations in Milwaukee's Third Ward. Sherry & Sally are excited about bringing their work to our area. Hope to see you there!

The Riptide is located at 649 E. Erie St. in Milwaukee.

Parking is available across from the Riptide. They also have directions posted on [www.getriptide.com](http://www.getriptide.com)

Any questions or for further directions please call Sherry at 414-852-1005.

## Special Thanks to:

**Doug Winter** for the beautiful flower plantings around the church building, continuous weeding and pruning.

**Sue Jarchow and Shellee Lubus** for attending the Greater Milw. Synod Assembly June 1-2.

**Dick Rutzen and Ron Ropel** for installing and staining wood strips on all pews to repair them and keep us from catching our clothing on them! A big job well done!

**Our Monday Night Softball Team** Check out the times on the bulletin board or newsletter and come see them play!

**All those who continue to serve God and the church in so many ways.**

## Human concerns

Next meeting is August 7 at 6:30 p.m. We will be planning for the school bags. Call Shirley Lieske: 761-0734

## NO KNIT WITS MEETING THIS SUMMER

We are taking a well deserved break due to holidays and vacations. We will resume on the 2nd Monday of the month, September 10th ; so we can honor Labor Day. Chemo-caps are always available; please see any knit wit for details if needed.

### **Support our Troops**

We are looking for addresses of family members or friends who are serving in our military for our country. We mail support boxes every two weeks, packed with a variety of items from snacks, batteries, powdered drinks, even pocket Bibles and personal notes (which they love to receive), etc. Please call 414-221-9793 with your address of a troop member.

If you are with a business or an individual who would like to show your support for our troops, your help would be greatly appreciated. Please contact us for a list of items the troops would like. Donations can be picked up. **Thank you!**

**Sherry & Dale Magner**

### **School Bags For Kids**

Later this summer and early fall we will again be collecting items for our "school kits" LWR project. If you are early school supply shoppers for your family, please keep our school kits in mind. The items needed are listed below. Thank you for your past donations. We want to surpass last year's total!

We'll also be needing strong fabric for the school bags. **Sewing Date: TBA!**

Pads or notebooks of ruled paper (8 1/2 x 11—150-200 sheets of paper)

One blunt scissors (safety with imbedded steel blades work well)

One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

One pencil sharpener

Six new pencils with erasers

12 sheets of construction paper in assorted colors

One box of 3, 16, or 25 crayons

One cloth bag approximately 12" x 14" with cloth handles—to be sewn by Loose Ends

### **Pick 'N Save Helps The Community**

Please help SSM benefit from 1% of YOUR Pick 'N Save purchases!

Just register at the Customer Service Desk and tell them you would like to have St. Stephen the Martyr as your designated charity. Funds go to fight hunger in our area. **Our #: 813560.**

### **The Staff of Life—SSM Food Pantry**

#### **Summer Service Opportunities**

*...because hunger never takes a vacation...*

We are continuing our service to the community by collecting food for Central City Food Pantry in July. Food for children is especially needed in the summer months. Thank you all for your continued support.

*"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." Phil. 2:13*

### **Sandwich Sunday - July 8 th**

**Join members of the Human Concerns committee after church on Sunday, July 8th, to make sandwiches.**

These sandwiches will be distributed by the Salvation Army to inner city children on Monday, July 9 th. The Salvation Army delivers lunches from June 18 to August 29 to replace the lunch offered at school, and may be the child's only meal for the day. St. Stephen's has a chance to be part of this important ministry right in our own back yard. We are looking for donations of the following:

**Jars of Creamy Peanut Butter**

**Jars of Grape Jam**

**Zip Lock Sandwich Bags**

( Bread will be provided by the committee to insure freshness)

**Please leave your donations by the display in the Narthex.**

### **Mt. Meru Coffee Project**

We have several kinds of Mt. Meru Coffee available in the narthex. Try a bag soon and enjoy! The cost is \$8.00 per 12 oz. bag.

*Doing Justice Never Tasted So Good!*

### **Help Gets to Uganda Family Treatment Fund**

*To Sara Raasch and SSM Friends,*

*I wanted to update you and your generous friends on our progress in meeting the treatment needs in Mbarara, Uganda. I have been on the phone weekly with the clinicians in Mbarara and they believe that the short-term crisis caused by the interruption in medication supply from the Ministry of Health has been covered. The clinicians have been assured that the Ministry of Health will resume shipments before the end of the month. I will travel to Uganda*

*the third week in June and first week in July to confirm firsthand that medication delivery has resumed. There will still be a need to supplement the large multinational programs by providing treatment to those who may not survive current waitlists, but at least none of the 1400 people on Ministry of Health medications had to interrupt treatment and put their only chance of lifesaving treatment at risk.*

*The success in keeping everyone on treatment is largely due to the generosity of the people you brought together to meet this short-term need. It means a great deal to me personally to see people respond so quickly to help those so far away. There are so many who are grateful for your help, including the patients, their families, their doctors, and myself. From all of us, thank you.*

*Sincerely, David Bangsberg, UCSF*

## **CONDENSED MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING - JULY 12, 2007**

(A Complete Set of Minutes can be found on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex.)

All Council members were present except J. Miller, S. Larson, K. Rasmussen and C. Malinowski.

**Approvals:** The Secretary's minutes from 5/8/07 were approved as written.

The **Financial Secretary's Report** was accepted. The Council discussed the idea of an occasional financial update from J. Bugajski, J. Miller and B. Kroll.

The **Treasurer's Report** was discussed. J. Bugajski reported that we are currently \$9,145.95 short in year to date offerings. Pastor Gail recommended that we notify the membership of this shortage via the monthly newsletter/weekly church bulletins. J. Bugajski reported he withdrew two CD's from Franklin State Bank and deposited them into the church's general account, until which time the council can choose a bank with a higher interest rate.

**Pastor's Time** - Pastor thanked S. Mayer & K. Sachse for the multi-generational program-May 13 th. She thanked E. Arneson & J. Rech for helping welcome five new members-June 10 th. She presided at two baptisms-Emily S. Haverkampf-May 27 th & Caitlin C. Waraksa-June 9 th. M. Yeutter spoke with Pastor about attending the UW-Madison Campus Ministry celebration on July 29 th and 30 th. The council voted to donate a \$100.00 towards UW-Madison's Campus Ministry program. She recognized the leaving of members B. & S. Mitchell and thanked them for all their church involvement. She will be attending the 125 th anniversary of St. Peter Lutheran in Fennimore, July 6-July 11 and will be attending the ELCA Global Mission Festival & Hunger Conference in Columbus July 17-July 20.

**Old Action Items:** J. Arneson purchased a lock box for the outside of the building. Lower parking lot was resealed Monday, June 4th.

**New Action Items:** J. Arneson reported a new riding lawnmower was purchased. Pastor Gail summarized the resolutions that passed at the Gr. Milw. Synod Assembly. There were two controversial resolutions: 1. ELCA congregations contact elected officials to ask for a speedy troop withdrawal from Iraq. Amended resolution passed without a timetable, but urged support for struggling Iraqi gov't. and all soldiers. 2. The Synod resolved to send a memorial to the churchwide assembly meeting in Chicago in August urging that gay and lesbian candidates in a committed relationship be considered for ordination on the same basis as other candidates. After much respectful discussion, resolution passed. Other resolutions passed, regarding health-care, a renewed emphasis on study of Scripture and care of creation.

### **Committee Comments:**

**Christian Education**- E.Sanders said there are 85 children signed up for Vacation Bible Time.

**Property** - J. Arneson thanked R. Ropel and D. Rutzen for fixing the pews.

**Evangelism** - E. Arneson reported her committee would start an outreach program to our members attending college and that they would be looking into having another pictorial directory for the membership.

**Human Concerns** -S. Lieske said after the July 8th service, members are asked to stay to make peanut butter sandwiches, to be picked up the Salvation Army.

**Youth** - K. Penvose stated families with younger children are signing up for the family covenants more so than families with teenage children.

**Rosy-Mursal Family** - The family will be moving shortly to North Lawn and a three bedroom unit.

**Adjournment** at 9:00 PM. Next meeting is July 10 th,2007

*Respectfully Submitted,*

**Shellee Lubus, Council Secretary**

PHONE 414-421-3543 · FAX 414-421-3543 · 6101 S 51st St, Greendale, WI 53129 · [ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com)