

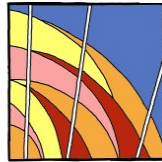
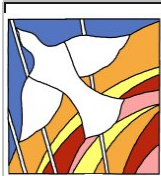


# St. Stephen the Martyr, ELCA

*We come together in Word and Sacrament that we might go to live and serve in the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord*



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.



## the MARTYR MONTHLY

October 2010 Newsletter

# St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Greendale, WI 53129  
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E-MAIL: [ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com)  
[www.StStephentheMartyr.com](http://www.StStephentheMartyr.com)

#### Office Hours

Monday 9 AM - 1 PM  
Tue - Thur 9 AM - 2 PM  
Fri 9 AM - 12 PM

#### SSM Staff

Gail Brodersen-Heins, Pastor  
[pastorgail@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:pastorgail@ststephenthemartyr.com)  
Bill Bravener, Music Director  
[bbravener@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:bbravener@ststephenthemartyr.com)  
Lynda Shadd, Office Administrator  
[ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com](mailto:ssm@ststephenthemartyr.com)  
Bob Brownell, Maintenance  
Bob De Frank, Sunday School Superintendent  
Janet Snyder, Organist

## Reformation Sunday & Potluck Dinner

October 31, 2010  
Holy Communion at all services  
Saturday 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 8:00 & 9:30 a.m.

Affirmation of Baptism—(Confirmation of 9th Graders)  
at the 9:30 worship

Invite family and friends to worship with you!  
Music by the choirs at all services

**SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES:**  
REFORMATION POT LUCK DINNER at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, with a brief entertaining program to follow



#### inside this issue:

- From Pastor's Desk
- Christian Education
- Family Ministries
- Fellowship Ministries
- Human Concerns
- Music & Worship
- Stewardship
- Women's Ministries
- Other Notes

### From Pastor's Desk

“The Church’s One Foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord”

On Wednesday, October 13th, Julie Starks and I will board a plane to begin the long trip first to Amsterdam, then on to Mt. Kilimanjaro Airport in Tanzania, east Africa to visit our Synod’s partner church: the Meru Diocese of the Lutheran Church there. We will travel with twelve others from our Greater Milwaukee Synod, including our Bishop Jeff Barrow. He is our delegation’s leader, but several others in the group have been there before and will guide the rest of us.

We will visit congregations of the Meru Diocese as well as church-run schools, a hospital and a seminary. We will also tour the Makumira Farm, which is a functioning farm that will train future farmers in sustainable agriculture and other vocations. Tanzania is one of the poorest countries in the world. The Lutheran Church there has been working to help people better their lives. Of course, that involves growing the coffee beans that produce the great Mt. Meru Coffee that our congregation and many others enjoy.

We look forward to the gracious hospitality that we have heard so much about. We know we’ll be greeted with enthusiastic singing and will join in spirited worship together. The pastors in our group are asked to preach and Julie and I and the other 12 are expected to bring greetings from our churches. We can’t wait to experience worship, meal fellowship, and just what it means to follow Jesus in such a different culture. Christians are growing in faith and in numbers in Tanzania and we look forward to that excitement.

The last two days of our trip, we will also visit a game preserve at one of Tanzania’s famous national parks, where we are sure to see wonderful African wildlife! We return on Friday, October 22nd, tired but I’m sure full of memories and much to share. I have thought about this trip for a long time, and finally it is going to be a reality. I am grateful that Julie has decided to go as well. Being a professional photographer, she will bring back wonderful pictures for you to see!

+++++

October 31st marks the celebration of the Protestant Reformation. At St. Stephen, we’ll celebrate at all weekend services with the sanctuary adorned with red, to highlight the work of the Holy Spirit (Y’all wear red, too, if you can!) We will celebrate Holy Communion and sing the great hymns of Martin Luther and others, and join in a festive Pot Luck on Sunday evening.

At the 9:30 a.m. worship, some special 9th graders will affirm their baptismal covenant in the Rite of Confirmation. Their parents, sponsors, other relatives and we, their church family will surround them with prayers as they promise to faithfully worship and pray, work for peace and justice, and tell others of Jesus Christ with their words and their lives. These young people need your prayers and support to help them keep these promises.

The ninth graders being confirmed on Sunday, October 31st are: Anna Balistreri, Kyle Kriewaldt, Cole Larson, Jack Larson & Borgne Raasch.

October is a beautiful month. Come praise God for all the beauty and the beauty of faith revealed in Jesus Christ.

God bless you all. See you at worship!

Pastor Gail

## Family Ministry News

<i>Upcoming Events</i>		
Date	Time	Event
October 23		Fall Costume Party
October 24	TBA	Basse’s Pumpkin Farm Outing
November 13	6:00 PM	Family Gathering Meeting @ SSM

The next **FAMILY GATHERING MEETING** will be Nov. 13th, 6 pm, held at SSM.

*Come Join Us for a "Fall Themed" Costume Party!*

Saturday, October 23, 2010

Doors open at 7:00pm

SSM Fellowship Hall

Age Groups: Middle-High School—Bring your friends!

Admission: 2 Non-perishable food items. Food will be donated to a local food pantry.

RSVP Char by October 17th, 2010

Any questions, "teens" willing to help or adults willing to chaperone please contact Char Guiliani 801-7349

### ***PUMPKIN FARM TIME!!***

Sunday, Oct. 24th

Everyone who attended last year's outing to the pumpkin farm had such a great time (and enjoyed the delicious donuts, of course), so we decided to go to Basse's in Muskego again! Check out their website:

[www.bassescountrydelight.com](http://www.bassescountrydelight.com)

**Sign up on the kiosk today!**

So, save the date of Sunday, November 24th, early afternoon. More details to follow.

Any questions, please contact Tracy Covert (414-855-0537).

### ***Calling All Youth & Young at Heart***

Come and hear a contemporary style concert by the Christian group, *Kutless, with Sidewalk Prophets and Above the Golden State*

**Date:** Friday, November 5th, 2010

**Time:** 6 p.m.

**Cost:** \$16

**Place:** Elmbrook Church, 777 South Barker Rd, Brookfield, WI 53045

Anyone interested, please call Char at 801-7349.

Check out their website at [www.kutless.com](http://www.kutless.com).

### ***ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2012***

July 18-22, 2012, ELCA youth will gather—again—in New Orleans, not to cheer on the Saints football team, but to stand with the saints of God in that place: the young and the old, the privileged and the uninvited, the lonely and the claimed, the powerful and the shamed, the weak and the strong, those who have built new homes and those still struggling to rebuild.

Why go back? Because New Orleans has more to teach us about fresh starts made possible by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. New Orleans has more to teach us about generosity and about how to be good neighbors. New Orleans has more to teach us about the house that God is building.

The ELCA Youth Gathering recommends that youth participants be between 14 and 18 years of age and entering 9th grade in the fall of 2012 (completed 8th in the spring of 2012) or just graduated from high school in the spring of 2012.

If you have an interest in going to the ELCA Youth Gathering, let Char Guiliani [minizmom@yahoo.com](mailto:minizmom@yahoo.com) or Tim Falksen [tfalksen@gmail.com](mailto:tfalksen@gmail.com)

### ***FAMILY CARING CONNECTION***

The SSM Family Ministries group recognizes that relationships are a big part of what keeps children coming back to church as they mature. We would like SSM members to undertake ministering in this way to Christ's youth in our church, and we've come up with a simple introductory way to do so. Now that our children have their own name tags it should be pretty easy to do with them what we do with each other every Sunday.

Say hello to them, shake their hands and say "good morning." On October 3rd we will hand out paper slips for you to write down your name and a hobby that you enjoy. These slips will be joined together with the children's and youth's slips to form a friendship chain. Feel free to use this as a jumping off point for conversation with a child. Who do you share a hobby with, or who would you like to talk with about what they wrote?

When you have the opportunity, open the red hymnal to #659. Some of the lyrics to the hymn, "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" read like this: "I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear...." Will you hold your hand out to the children of SSM?

- Char Guiliani

Contact our Council Chair for Family Ministries

Char Guliani

[minizmom@yahoo.com](mailto:minizmom@yahoo.com) & on Facebook

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# Fellowship

## ***OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION AT FIRST FRIDAY POTLUCK!***

The First Friday Potluck this month will actually be on the second Friday, October 8th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Celebrate the German and northern European heritage of so many in this area! Bratwurst and sauerkraut will be served (separately, for those who like one and not the other!) and you are asked to bring a side dish, salad, bread/rolls or dessert. Fall is in the air, so get out those favorite recipes! Jokes and humorous stories are again welcome, and perhaps think of sharing a family story of growing up in the diverse Milwaukee area. Or just come to laugh and share wonderful fellowship. Friends and neighbors are welcome to join you. Sign up on the office bulletin board and indicate what you will bring. Enjoy the Gemütlichkeit! Guten Appetit!

## ***Human concerns***

***NEXT MEETING:*** October 5, 6:30 PM

Call Pam Gustafson, 817-3290, with any questions. We welcome any member who'd like to join us.

### ***CROP Walk***

The 25th Annual Milwaukee CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday October 10th! You can be a part of making a difference - if you are not able to walk with us, it's not too late to donate food or to sponsor walkers! Walkers, dress for the weather and bring your sponsor sheets with you. (If you are under 18, please have your parent or guardian sign your sponsor sheet). Our carpool will leave from church at 12:30 p.m., the walk starts at 1:30 p.m. near McKinley Marina. We're off to walk for people in our community and throughout the world! We walk for one day for two hours to commemorate those who walk every day for many hours in order to survive.

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

We continue our service to the community by collecting food for Central City Food Pantry in October. Thank you to all for your continued support.

"The LORD upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind, and lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous." Psalm 146

### ***Pick, and Save for SSM!***

CONTINUING TO HELP 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. Our #813560.

### ***The Gathering Meal***

October 20th, 3:30 pm

Help serve a meal to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Sign up on bulletin board and make a difference in someone's life!

Meet at church at 3:30 pm.

### ***A MESSAGE FOR OUR THRIVENT MEMBERS***

Have you designated your Thrivent Choice Dollars to your favorite charity? In these hard times these designated monies could mean hundreds of dollars to charities, including SSM. This new program grants this money based on the type and amount of your investments with Thrivent. There is no work involved other than to call the company at 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice". A personable operator will explain more. To begin, you can also visit their website: [www.Thrivent.com/choicedollars](http://www.Thrivent.com/choicedollars).

This "free" money could greatly benefit our church or another charity. Any questions, ask me. I've done it!  
- Bob Rasmussen

### ***ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE - PAKISTAN FLOODING***

After weeks of heavy rain, flash flooding has left almost a fifth of the country of Pakistan under water. Up to 20 million people have been affected by the floods and 1,600 people have died. Some of the hardest-hit villages have been transformed into small islands, leaving thousands stranded without access to food or safe

water. In addition, large amounts of standing water have caused health officials to fear a second wave of deaths from water-borne diseases like cholera. Young children are most at risk. These floods are the worst in living memory for the people of Pakistan. But aid has been slow to come in and reach those who need it most. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is already working through long-standing partnerships on the ground in Pakistan to save lives by providing emergency food, water and shelter. A mobile health unit is providing emergency health assistance to those who have been injured. Financial gifts are urgently needed to continue this vital response effort and provide long-term support to the people of Pakistan. Your gifts to ELCA Disaster Response, designated for Pakistan Flooding, will be used entirely—100 percent—for this response effort in Pakistan. Your prayers and generous gifts will make a lifesaving difference. Please give today.

If you'd like to help, please fill out this form and send with your offering.

ELCA Disaster Response: Pakistan Flooding \$ \_\_\_\_\_ IDG0040

ELCA Disaster Response: Where Needed Most \$ \_\_\_\_\_ IDG0016

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to St. Stephen the Martyr & please write "Pakistan Flooding" on your check's memo line.

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## Music & Worship

The Music and Worship committee would like to extend a warm welcome to all members of SSM to our next committee meeting to be held on October 6, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

### *PARAMENT COLORS AND MORE*

We are approaching into the fall calendar with many things going on. We have seen the green paraments of the Pentecost season but we will be temporarily changing them to red for Reformation Day which occurs this year on the weekend of October 30th and 31st. This is also the day that our church celebrates confirmation.

Reformation is a day for giving thanks for Martin Luther and many others who ushered in the Reformation of the church. Reformation recalls the work of God in preserving the church in times of trial. Martin Luther is often referred to on his day of the truth and a promoter of the gift of God's grace to all.

Martin Luther wanted to teach people that only by believing in Jesus can our sins be forgiven so we can live with God forever. Luther nailed his message to the door of the Castle church in Wittenburg, Germany.

**DECORATION HELP IS NEEDED!**

The Music and Worship committee is looking for members of SSM who are willing to assist in some way and for those who do not want long term commitment as we approach the Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas season in the church. We need members to assist in decorating the church sanctuary and narthex. Any assistance that one can give us would be greatly appreciated.

Contact Chairpersons, Cathy Peterson (325-6628) or Sue Jarchow (526-9785) with any questions or see us at church.

### *Music Notes*

from Bill Bravener, Director of Music/Associate in Ministry

Choir rehearsals are off to a great start; however you are welcome to join us at any time. We always have room for more.

Thanks to the returning choir members and the new participants.

Please consider attending the weekend Bible study retreat. I know you will enjoy it.

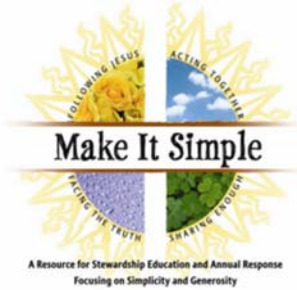
See you at worship.

- Bill

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## Stewardship

## *Introducing...*



The Stewardship Committee is excited to introduce to all members of St. Stephen the Martyr Lutheran Church (SSM) the new stewardship program for 2011, Make It Simple. This program provides important opportunities for our congregation for reflection and discussion about the choices we make in our daily lives in these times.

We are excited to bring you new ideas to help everyone reflect on how we are giving of our time, talent and treasure at SSM. The Make It Simple program is a resource for our congregation to help us grow as stewards with a focus on simplicity, generous living, and the faithful use of God's abundant blessings.

As you can see from the logo above, the Make It Simple program is based on four important themes: Following Jesus, Facing the Truth, Acting Together and Sharing Enough. Please read and discuss with your families the following bible verses.

Following Jesus - Matthew 6:25-33

We are pieces of God's abundant creation, adorning God's world and cherishing God's abundant blessings.

Facing the Truth - Mark 4:37-41

The parades of our lives are often disrupted as we face the truth that faithfulness, simplicity, and generosity are not always easy to live out.

Acting Together - John 13:34-35

Looking beyond ourselves, we see clearly that we are not alone in living out God's will for the world. We are disciples in the body of Christ.

Sharing Enough - Philippians 4:11b-13

Our lives are blessed with the gift of God's "enough", and so we can be satisfied with what we have.

The Make It Simple program will be the focus of bulletin inserts and Temple Talks throughout the month of October. Pledge cards will be provided to all SSM members at the end of October. Commitment Weekend is scheduled for November 6 and 7. At this time, we will all be able to turn in a pledge card indicating our plan for giving for the coming year, 2011.

This is a very important time for SSM, allowing for the support and planning of the ministries that will be carried out throughout the year. Please accept our invitation to become involved in our new stewardship program, Make It Simple.

Your Stewardship Committee



## *Women's Bible Study, Loose Ends & More...*

The Women's Bible Study will meet at 10:15 a.m. on October 13 & 27. Everyone is invited to come as we study the following Sunday's texts.

## *Loose Ends Lunch*

Where: Applebees -5100 S. 76th St.

When: Wednesday, October 13th

Time: 11:45 a.m.

Please sign up by October 10th on the kiosk in the narthex. Indicate if you will need a ride from your home or if you want to car-pool from church. We will leave church around 11:30 a.m. Questions can be directed to Diana Gastrau at 304-8284.

## *COME AND JOIN US.....*

on October 6, October 20, November 3 and November 17 and help us complete a few simple crafts that will be sold at the Bake & Craft Sale taking place on December 4-5.

On December 1, we will meet to set-up and price items for the sale and some of us will also work in the kitchen

to make some special treats that will also be sold at the Sale. You are welcome to any or all of these opportunities. Starting time is 9:15 a.m.

SSM members who do crafting are invited to make donations to the Sale but are asked to inform Carole Ropel (262-523-4130) of your intentions. We invite ALL SSM bakers to make donations and to bring them to the church on the Friday or Saturday of the Sale.

October and November, Women's Bible Study continues on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month beginning at 10:15 a.m., with a Loose Ends Luncheon following the 2nd Wednesday Bible Study. There will be no luncheon in December.

October 6th - our first crafting session. Melinda Winter will show us how to make Ribbon Wreaths. While Melinda has some supplies, we would appreciate donations of 10 - 12 inch straw wreaths, the special pins used to hold the ribbon to the wreath and any ribbon you may have that is an inch or so wide. Bring a scissors with you.

Special thanks to Melinda for taking the time out of her busy schedule to work with us on this project.

We will order lunch from Cousins or some other agreed upon restaurant.

Any questions? Call Carole Ropel at 262-523-4130.

## *Other Notes*

### *Tuesday NitE Bible Study*

Our small, friendly group begins meeting again on Sept. 21 at 7:00pm. We meet regularly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from Sept. - May at church. All are welcome!

We will be using a Bible Study titled "The People of God: Unity in the Midst of Diversity." While this study appears in the magazine "Lutheran Women Today" the topic is relevant to men and women of faith.

You can print Session One from the ELCA website through the following links:

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org); "Growing in Faith" tab; Ministry; Women of the ELCA; Lutheran Women Today; Bible Study. Lots of digging to get there, but worth it! Once you find it, bookmark it to your favorites!

For more information please contact Julie Starks, [jastarks@earthlink.net](mailto:jastarks@earthlink.net), 483-0122 or Carol Birk, 421-6162.

Looking forward to seeing you on Sept. 21!

### *FALL BOOK OF FAITH PROGRAM: JONAH*

October 1st & 2nd

Come together this fall for a retreat-style study of the book of Jonah! Take a look at the guidebook and get all the details on the poster in the narthex. Cost is either \$10 for the book, dinner, and breakfast - or \$5 to offset food costs if you share a book with someone else.

Fri Oct 1st

6:00 - Meal and Fellowship

6:45 - Where Was Jonah Going?

7:45 - Break

7:55 - What Was Jonah Praying?

9:00 - Good night!

Sat Oct 2nd

8:45 - Coffee & rolls

9:00 - What Was Jonah Saying?

10:15 - Break

10:30 - What Was Jonah Thinking?

11:45 - Closing Prayer

Early registration helps us plan our materials and food, so sign up today! Contact Eric Sanders for more details.

### *Memorial Committee News*

The Memorial committee met on Sept 11th, 2010. The old business included a report on the Communion Flagon (wine pitcher). It has issues and needs to be replated. While we wait on an estimate for that, a stainless steel flagon was purchased with memorial funds. It is tougher and a bit smaller. We can use it in the interim and for smaller gatherings.

Funds were authorized for the new concrete benches in the Big Backyard. Rally day was a nice introduction to our backyard and the proposed prayer garden project. Julie Starks set up a trivia/treasure hunt for families and the committee set up pathways, circles and the benches for our use. We welcome contributions of funds, talents and time for this endeavor. Special occasions are a good time to donate to the Memorial fund, either for the garden project or see the list of approved items on the visitor book sign-in rack near the front door.

We okayed money for purchase of flower bulbs, to be sold as a fund raiser in October.

A graceful pale green recycled glass pitcher was donated for the filling the Baptismal water basin, the pitcher is

dishwasher safe also.

The next regular meeting of the committee will be Dec. 11h, 2010. Your committee members are: Sandy Petricek, Pastor Gail, Dick Kroll, Shirley Rau, Carol Birk, Marge Muroi, Karen Hoffman and me...

- Faith O'Connell

### ***BULB WORKSHOP & SALE - BEGINS OCT. 2!***

Retired Milwaukee County Horti-culturist and SSM member Jerry Seroka will offer a "drop in as you can" Q & A session on planting and caring for tulips, daffodils and hyacinths, Sat., Oct. 2nd, from 11am-1pm at church.

Also beginning that day as a fund raiser for our Prayer Garden, quality, large bulbs will be sold at SSM.

Mixed varieties from Holland, bags will contain all tulips or daffodils or hyacinths.

\$10 for a bag of

25 large bulbs

\$25 for 3 bags

Sale begins in the parking lot on Sat., Oct. 2, 11am-1pm and also during all church services until they are gone!

Share this great deal with family, friends, neighbors and co-workers!

Thanks to David J. Frank Landscaping for selling us these bulbs at invoice cost!

- Julie Starks

### ***FALL CHURCH CLEANING DAY***

October 9th, 9 am

Donuts & coffee provided.

Let's get the church 'spruced' up for the fall/winter holidays!

SSM member Yusuf Mohamed is an accomplished tailor who is available for dress-making, tailoring and alterations. See him at church or call him if you have such work for him.

(Home) 414-282-9136 (Cell): (414) 552-9483

### ***Help Us Keep Our Records Up to Date***

Are you moving or have you moved? 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 in your church mailbox, instead of by mail? Let Lynda know in the office and she will make the change for you.

You can also receive the newsletter by email as well as viewing it on our website.

### ***BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS***

On Sat. Oct. 2nd at Noon, as a part of Greendale's "Hay Days" clergy will bless the pets of any who bring them to the parking lot in front of the Harmony Inn. This is long tradition of the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches, and we will participate!

### ***Kiddie Keep Helpers Needed***

We love children! And we are looking for other friends who love children who would like to help out in our Kiddie Keep nursery. Sign up for a 9:30 am service — A sign up sheet is on the cabinet of the Kiddie Keep room to your right as you walk in.

You don't have to be on the permanent schedule, you can volunteer to fill in once in a while— it's a great opportunity for youth needing service hours!

If you'd be willing to help, you can also contact Paige Ceku at 526-1950. Thank you, and the little ones thank you too!

### ***Alert! Christmas Bell Ringers...***

You heard right... Yes, it's early, I know, but the stores will soon be telling us Christmas is coming! Their motive is profit. Ours is about giving... to help the Salvation Army help those people who are in need of help and hope. So get ready! We will be ringing bells on 3 Saturdays in December, the 4th, 11th and 18th and on Thursday, December 16th and Friday, December 17th. So you can make your plans early by letting me know if you would like to reserve a specific date and time.

Our Salvation Army Representative told me that he's planning to use SSM as a model for other churches, to challenge them to follow our lead! I told him we are prepared to accept his challenge and I know you all are with me. So get ready. We are happy to have any new bell ringers join us! More to come...

- John Rech, Coordinator



[About Us](#) | [Site Map](#) | [Contact Us](#)

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