

ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 14, 2025

Church Office
Pastor Doug Woltemath
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Organist, Susan Voss
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Acolytes This Sunday:
Lane Robson & Mia Kenny

Acolytes Next Sunday:
Lexi Hlas & Allison Wolf

 **PRAYER UPON ENTERING:** Dear Jesus, help us focus on you during this busy season. May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives. We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude to your manger on Christmas. Amen.

 **IN OUR PRAYERS:** Members of our congregation: Haley McNulty, Joyce Plotz, Don Waterman, Nancy Rinderknecht, Carla McLarty, Gayle Reese, LaVonne Sass, Kathryn Waterman, Doris Porazil, Denny Lohrer, Dan Voss, Allan Schanbacher, Laurie Davis, Ken Popenhagen, Carrie Sperflage, and Marcey Jensen; Kathryn Waterman on her birthday today.

Others: Ongoing illnesses, issues, and recoveries: Clara Fry, Karen Smith, Molly Voss, Leslie Strottman, Holley Haerther, Brandon Pflug, Terri, Valerie, and Jeff.

DOOR OFFERINGS: Today's door offering is for the Choir.
Dec. 21 & 28 – Christmas Committee door offering

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN'S:

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| Today | 9:00 am | Divine Service Christmas Choir Concert |
| | 10:15 am | Sunday School |
| | 2:00 pm | Fellowship Hall reserved |
| Monday | 6:00 pm | CLS Board Meeting |
| Wednesday | 8:30 am | CLS Chapel |
| Sunday | 9:00 am | Divine Service (HC) |

Noses & Nickels last Sunday & Children's Program:

Attendance: Sunday: 80 Sunday School Children's Program: 136
Offering: Home: \$4,935.00 Missions: \$0



FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR: The flowers on the altar have been given to the Glory of God in thanksgiving for the many years of God's love and blessings given to Kathryn Waterman on her 96th birthday today and in loving memory of Warren Waterman for his birthday on December 23rd by their family.



PORTALS OF PRAYERS: The new Portals of Prayers for January-March are on the table in the narthex. Please help yourself.



THANK YOU: We collected \$184.00 for Lutheran Bible Translators for our November door offerings. Thank you for your donations!



OPEN BOARD POSITIONS: We are still looking to fill 2 open board positions...Outreach and Youth. If you have any questions about these boards, please talk to an Elder, Brian Wells, or Pastor. The terms begin January 1, 2026 and are a 3 year term.



SCRIP orders for Christmas must be submitted no later than the morning of Monday, December 15th. Thank you for your support. If you have questions feel free to contact Dorothy Embretson at 319-551-1472.



ILSTO: Students in our Lutheran schools need your help! While helping families, you get some help with your state taxes! The Iowa Lutheran Student Tuition Organization is at 25% of its \$1,189,000 goal as of Dec. 1. You have until the end of the year – Dec. 31 – to mail your gift. How can you help? A donation of cash, stock, or even grain, but giving is not limited to Lutherans. If you know someone who could benefit from a 75% tax credit, please give them a donor form. Remember the financial benefit to a contributor is a 75% tax credit on Iowa income taxes (which can be carried over for five years) and also a charitable contribution on your federal form. For more information about ILSTO go online to www.iowalutheransto.com or call Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES: Please plan to join us for our Christmas Services:

Wednesday, December 24th

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion
11:00 pm Candlelight Service led by the Senior Youth

Thursday, December 25th

9:00 am Christmas Day Service