

ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 9, 2025


Church Office	319-446-7675
Pastor Doug Woltemath	Home: 319-446-6222 / Cell: 319-521-8201
Administrative Assistant, Carol Woodley	319-310-3682
Organist, Susan Voss	319-446-7402
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Central Lutheran School	319-223-5271


Acolytes This Sunday:

Allison Wolf & Lexi Hlas

Acolytes Next Sunday:

Mason Wecker & Mia Kenny

 **PRAYER UPON ENTERING:** Lord, give us faith to trust in You always and forever. 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, Laurie Davis, Ken Popenhagen, Carrie Sperflage, and Marcey Jensen; Allan Schanbacher recovering from hospitalization and pneumonia.

Others: Ongoing illnesses, issues, and recoveries: Clara Fry, Karen Smith, Molly Voss, Leslie Strottman, Holley Haerther, Brandon Pflug, Terri, Valerie, and Jeff; Hiltrude Cram (Christine Kreutner's sister) who is under hospice care.

DOOR OFFERING: Nov. door offerings are for Lutheran Bible Translators.

THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN'S:

Today	9:00 am	Divine Service
	10:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Bible Study
	4:00 pm	Fellowship Hall reserved
Monday	7:00 pm	LifeLight Bible Study
Tuesday	9:00 am	Sewing
Wednesday	8:30 am	CLS Chapel
	10:30 am	Adult Bible Fellowship
	1:30 pm	Midweek class
	4:00 pm	Catechism class
Thursday	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	9:00 am	Divine Service (HC)
	10:15 am	Christmas Committee Meeting (Conference Rm)
	10:15 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Bible Study



ALTAR FLOWERS: The flowers on the alter showing the Lord's beautiful work of nature are given by Tom & Julia Gerhold to give thanks for their 20th wedding anniversary on November 11th.



CONGRATUATIONS: Congratulations to Matt & Brooke Yates on the birth of their son, Hayden Matthew, on October 30. He weighed 6 lbs. 13 oz., and was 21 inches long. We pray that the Lord bless this family and their new addition.



YOU ARE INVITED: The congregation is invited to celebrate the 90th Birthday of LaVonne Sass during fellowship time today after the worship service. LaVonne was born November 6, 1935. We give thanks and praise to God for blessing LaVonne the past 90 years.



SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School Christmas Program practice begins today! First graders and older, please meet at 10:15 in the front of the church. Preschool and kindergarten will meet downstairs, like normal. The Sunday School Christmas program will be held on Wednesday, December 10th.



THANK YOU: We collected \$370.12 for the Atkins Fire and First Responders for our October door offerings. Thank you for your donations!



2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES: If you currently are signed up for the electronic giving and still would like a box of 2026 offering envelopes - please let the office know. If we don't hear from you, an offering box will not be issued.



FOOD DONATIONS: Susan Voss has a Thrivent grant to help purchase food for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner boxes to be distributed by the Helping Hands Food Pantry. If you would like to help, they would accept monetary donations or any non-perishable items someone might use for a holiday dinner. They currently have a large supply of canned vegetables so it would be good to think in a different direction. Thank you for your help!



WICKER CHAIR: The wicker rocker located in the rear of the sanctuary has been given to the church by Roger & LaDean Haerther. These chairs are available for you and your little ones.

Noses & Nickels Last Sunday & Wednesday:

Attendance: Last Sunday: 148 Wednesday Evening: 11
Offering: Home: \$5,426.00 Missions: \$71.00



LEAF RAKING: If you would like your leaves raked by our Senior Youth, please sign up on the table in the narthex. They are waiting for the leaves on the trees to fall to plan when this will be.



SHOE BOXES: There are a couple of weeks left to put a Samaritan Purse shoebox together to ship to other countries. Please pick up your Samaritan shoebox, brochures/labels on the table in the narthex. Once the shoebox is filled, place the age and gender label inside the box with \$10.00 to cover the cost of shipping. Checks payable to Samaritan's Purse. PLEASE DO NOT WRAP OR SEAL THE BOX. All shoeboxes **must be turned in by Sunday, November 23rd**, so they may be taken to the collection center that afternoon.



CLS IS HIRING: Central Lutheran School is looking to hire a part time teacher aide to help mainly in the 4th grade classroom. Someone who loves children, doesn't mind sharing their faith, and looks to help a classroom teacher in the areas of reading and math. If you are interested or know of someone, have them contact Principal Frank Parris at principal@centrallutheranschool.org or 319-223-5271.



ILSTO would love to award more financial assistance but we need your help to do so. There certainly is a great need in our LCMS schools so families can continue to send their children to an Iowa Lutheran Elementary/Secondary School. As you begin thoughts of end of year giving, RMD distributions, and other tax planning, please consider a donation to the Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization. Your donation can be cash, RMD, appreciated stock, or even grain. The 75% Iowa tax credit is the largest tax credit in Iowa and there are also added tax benefits to C-Corporations if that includes you or someone you know. For more information about ILSTO go online to www.iowalutheransto.com or call Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991.



CHRIST LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL: With thanksgiving, we are grateful to God for His blessings on our work as we continue to move forward in our endeavor to open a Lutheran high school in the Cedar Rapids metropolitan area. Already, Christ Lutheran High School is incorporated with the State of Iowa. We are awaiting approval from the IRS of our application for nonprofit status. But we're not just waiting around; the Board of Directors, made up of members from LCMS congregations in Benton and Linn counties, meets monthly to work on modules provided by the Iowa Association of Christian Schools that give guidance for the start-up of a new Christian School. And there is a lot of work being done between meetings as well. Want to know how you can get involved? Contact Mark Mueller at themarkmueller56@gmail.com

St. Stephen's needs your help with filling open board positions!

The following 4 board positions begin January 1, 2026 and are a 3 year term. If you are interested or need more information, please talk to the Elders or Pastor. Below is a description of the open board positions.

FINANCE BOARD: This position shall receive and deposit all contributions of the members of the congregation and turn over all records of receipts to the Treasurer. They shall keep an accurate account of all individual contributions and shall render an annual printed report to the congregation. Weekly deposits are made at the Atkins Savings Bank.

OUTREACH BOARD: This position shall maintain a program to greet and welcome visitors at all regular worship services. They shall also be responsible for planning, promoting, and carrying out an outreach program in the congregation and community. They share the responsibility with other Outreach Board members to serve coffee and treats for fellowship time after church services.

PARISH EDUCATION: This position stimulates and maintains the proper interest in the members of St. Stephen's congregation regarding Christian Education. The Sunday School Superintendent, in addition to being a member of this Board, is the Pastor's chief assistant with regard to the Sunday School and shall exercise detailed supervision over the entire Sunday School program. This Board shall encourage the spiritual growth of the members through the various educational agencies within the congregation (such as Sunday School, midweek classes, Vacation Bible School, youth and adult Bible classes). They will plan for, make suggestions to, and promote member involvement in these agencies so that all members may grow in Christian knowledge and ability.

YOUTH BOARD: This position makes sure that there is support for the youth and their programs in the congregation. They shall encourage the youth to become involved in the youth programs, see that youth activities are publicized, seek appropriate volunteers to assist with the youth programs, and provide encouragement and support for these people.