

THE VOICE

of St. Stephen's

November Volume 139 Issue 11



Cornucopia comes from the Late Latin cornu copiae, which translates literally as "horn of plenty." A traditional staple of feasts, the cornucopia is believed to represent the horn of a goat

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Services

Sunday, November 3

All Saints Sunday

10:45 am

Sunday, November 10

25th Sunday after Pentecost

10:45 am

Sunday, November 17

26th Sunday after Pentecost

10:45 am

Sunday, November 24

Christ the King

10:45 am

Reflections from Pastor Barry



Dear Friends at St Stephen's,

November is a particularly peculiar month in the life of the Church. November begins with All Saints Sunday, a bittersweet day to remember those loved ones who have died in the faith and gone on to the Church Triumphant. We look forward to that time when there is no more sorrow or tears, a time when we feast together at the great banquet set for us by God.

This November, with such a contentious election looming over our heads, I cannot help but think- and pray that we want peace and a chance to be united after being reminded for so long now that we are a people divided. The community of faith that gathers here is not of one mind, I know that, when it comes to our politics. But I do know that we put on the mind of Christ and that it is in Jesus the Christ we are united and made one to do the will of God. Strangely or maybe appropriately the political climate of this time and place adds to the tension we feel at this time in the church year.

November we celebrate harvest home and Thanksgiving- the celebration of God's abundance. We are told over and over that there is not enough to go around, but God reminds us that there is more than enough for everyone and then some- even leftovers- maybe even twelve baskets full to share with all the peoples of the world. Again, I with you feel the tension of these days but trust in a God who provides all things and celebrate the gifts I have been given. It is in the spirit of abundance that we are called upon to offer our time and talents and treasures. Thank you to all of you who have so graciously given in your weekly offerings and to those of you who have been able to give above and beyond to help pay for our roofing and keep our building safe and dry. Thank you!

November we gather to celebrate Christ our King- Christ who Reigns- a reminder that in our foolishness to exert power, there is only one source of power and that is the power of God. We are reminded yet again, that the power of God is revealed on a cross- in suffering and in service and in love.

Christ our King marks the end November we gather to celebrate Christ our King- Christ who Reigns- a reminder that in our foolishness to exert power, there is only one source of power and that is the power of God. We are reminded yet again, that the power of God is revealed on a cross- in suffering and in service and in love. Christ our King marks the end

This month of November is full of tension and transition and yet is also a reminder of our God who is ever present and constant and near. Though the world seems to be near its end- again, God is here to lift us up and remind us that today, this day, is the day to start anew, afresh and in the fullness of nothing less than the grace of God.

Blessings for a grace-filled November!
Pastor Barry

Notes about a Sunday Morning:

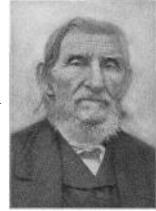
Some notes about what happens here at St Stephens on a typical Sunday morning and in no particular order!

Starting with the end of our morning- 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. We gather for FELLOWSHIP! Our Sunday morning concludes with a gathering in the fellowship hall downstairs. There is an elevator for your use. Gather with old friends or make new ones. Gathering over coffee or some simple snack or a sandwich helps us to be connected to one another. It is more than just saying hello during the liturgy, it is a time to connect in a deeper way- to share something about life or to just talk baseball- spring training is coming! Please consider hosting a fellowship hour- it does not need to be complicated. Just come early to get the coffee on and set up for the drinks. Doughnuts and fruit are enough or go ahead and do something more involved. Please know we are all grateful for your offering! You do not need to do it alone- ask someone to share with you. The seasoned volunteers among us are happy to offer guidance. A huge thank you to all of you who help with our weekly fellowship. And a huge thank you to all of you who come downstairs to join us! It is good when we gather together.

Voices of the Saints

John Christian Frederick Heyer:

(July 10, 1793 - November 7, 1873) was the first missionary sent abroad by Lutherans in the United States. He founded the Guntur Mission in Andhra Pradesh, India. "Father Heyer" is commemorated as a missionary in the Calendar of Saints of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on November 7.



Heyer worked as a preacher for three years until he was fully ordained in 1820. He spent the next twenty years ministering and establishing churches and Sunday schools in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, the mid-western states, and as far west as Missouri. In 1829, he used his private funds, along with that of twenty two other stockholders (all Lutheran clergymen), to purchase the former Adams County Academy and form the Gettysburg Gymnasium. It became Gettysburg College in 1832, at which time Heyer and his associates, through their private subscriptions, became the Patrons of Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg. He died in 1873 at the age of eighty, and his body was buried beside his wife in the Friedens Lutheran Church cemetery, Friedens, Pennsylvania.

Jehu Jones (1786–1852) was a Lutheran minister who founded one of the first African-American Lutheran congregations in the United States, well as actively involved in improving the social welfare of blacks. In 1832, with the encouragement of his pastor, Rev. John Bachman, Jones traveled to New York for ordination as a missionary by the New York Synod, having accepted a job as a missionary to Liberia. There, he was to work with freed slaves sent by the American Colonization Society who emigrated to that new nation. However, Jones did not reach Liberia, for upon his return to Charleston after ordination, he was briefly jailed for violating South Carolina's new law. Upon his father's death in 1833, Jones received his inheritance and moved to Philadelphia. In June, the Lutheran Church there appointed Jones as a missionary to the city's black population, already served by St. Thomas' Episcopal Church. Jones remained active in the Philadelphia African American congregation, as well as Pennsylvania politics and the national Colored Conventions Movement through at least 1851, the year before his death. In 1845, he helped organize a convention to unite freed blacks to petition for civil rights. He and the St. Paul's congregation were also active in the Moral Reform and Improvement Society, a group of African-American churches whose goal was to improve the social conditions for blacks in Philadelphia. Jones also founded Lutheran Churches (Gettysburg and Chambersburg.



as

Voices of the Poets

.Famous

Naomi Shihab Nye

The river is famous to the fish.

The loud voice is famous to silence,
which knew it would inherit the earth
before anybody said so.

The cat sleeping on the fence is famous to the birds
watching him from the birdhouse.

The tear is famous, briefly, to the cheek.

The idea you carry close to your bosom
is famous to your bosom.

The boot is famous to the earth,
more famous than the dress shoe,
which is famous only to floors.

The bent photograph is famous to the one who carries it
and not at all famous to the one who is pictured.

I want to be famous to shuffling men
who smile while crossing streets,
sticky children in grocery lines,
famous as the one who smiled back.

I want to be famous in the way a pulley is famous,
or a buttonhole, not because it did anything spectacular,
but because it never forgot what it could do.

*Naomi Shihab Nye, "Famous" from Words Under the Words:
Selected Poems by Naomi Shihab Nye, copyright © 1995.*

Bingo, Oct 5, 2024



Blessing of the Animals Oct 6, 2024



Crop Walk Oct 13, 2024



Social Ministry Corner

Past Events



Northeast Community Center –Our Church helped with the annual Thanksgiving Meal Distribution. This year their goal was to provide 250 families with generous funds from Thrivent Action Teams and Social Ministry we filled their request for 250 boxes of instant mashed potatoes and 250 bags of rice.



Crop Walk-We had 14 people from our church walking in this year's Crop Walk. We raised \$900 to help end hunger.

Thank you to all who supported this outreach event.



Lutheran World Relief Ingathering-75 school kits were delivered to the Northeastern Pa Synod Lutheran Center.

Thank you to everyone who donated items and help assemble these kits.

Ongoing Events

We are asking to collect 175 soaps and 175 washcloths. These items will be taken to the ingathering held in December. They will be distributed to local charities in need of these items.

Social Ministry Corner

Upcoming Events



Work Party– Saturday, Nov 2 10am to noon. We will be organizing and preparing items that we put in each box, folding boxes, making t-shirt, jump ropes and more.

Packing Party– Saturday, Nov 16 at 1pm in Fellowship Hall.

What is operation Christmas Child-a project by Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization, that delivers shoeboxes filled with gifts to children in need around the world:

- **Purpose:** To share the Good News of Jesus Christ with children in vulnerable situations and to provide God's love in a tangible way
- **Gifts:** Shoeboxes filled with toys, school supplies, and hygiene items
- **Recipients:** Children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease

Impact: Since 1993, over 220 million shoeboxes have been delivered to children in more than 170 countries and territories



Bethlehem Emergency Shelter– Sunday Nov 24 from 3pm to 8pm Watch for sign up opportunities to help with variety shifts.



Sunday, Nov 17 is Harvest Sunday. Please bring a non-perishable food items to fill our shopping cart. This food will be donated to local food bank.

Welcome in Baptism

Ryder James Smith, Ryleigh Emilie Smith
Michelle Leigh Smith On Oct 27



Kathy Bielinski
Francine Heft
Rose Mavis

Pat Hartzell would like to thank everyone who sent cards, thoughts and prayers for her while she was in the hospital and rehab. It was overwhelming! She is so happy to be part of a caring congregation. She is back in her own apartment



Birthdays for November

1-Suzanne Bachman
4-James Zarzecki
8-Desmond Cainon
14-Spencer Sabo
15-Miranda Shively
18-Jayden Macon
20-James Banko
21-Bonnie Gerber
22-Diane Bozelli
22-Elliott Paden
23-Vicki Gardner
26-Haylie Carson



Anniversaries for November

10-Mason & Ashley Castro
20-John Jr & Melissa Phillips
23-Joseph & Donna Talaber









November 2024

St. Stephen's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Worship Service Assistants

Altar Care: Jeanine Siegfried

Worship Service					
November 3 10:45am	Jackson Raab	Scott Albanese	TBD	TBD	TBD
November 10 10:45 am	Maddie Zuber	Ron & Mary Jo Reed, Brody Zuber, Scott Albanese	Ron Reed	Ron & Mary Jo Reed	New Members Luncheon
November 17 10:45 am	Leah Raab	Ron & Mary Jo Reed, Scott Albanese	TBD	Ron & Mary Jo Reed	TBD
November 24 10:45 am	Brody Zuber	Ron & Mary Jo Reed, Scott Albanese	Kim Bluder	Ron & Mary Jo Reed	TBD

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Barry J. Harte
Secretary: Christine Baylor

Organist: John Phillips Jr
Sexton: Shawn Barger

CHURCH COUNCIL

Suzanne Bachman	610-974-9024	suzbach756@aol.com
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Craig Spangenberg	484-767-3384	jlsparenberg@juno.com
Todd Siegfried	610-392-8940	jtisiegfried@msn.com

CHURCH COMMITTEES

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Suzanne Bachman (Chair), Bonnie Gerber, Michelle Hoysan, Carla Perry, Bev Carson.

EVANGELISM

Suzanne Bachman, Bonnie Gerber, Pat Handlovic, Dennise Lopez (Chair), Joan Neff

FINANCE

Kim Bluder, Tom Hartzell (Chair, Treasurer), Mike Hosfeld, Michelle Hoysan, George Klose, Charles Miller, Ron Reed, Barbara Seifert-Sigmon, Mary Jo Reed

PROPERTY

Ed Acevedo, Dwayne Gaumer, Pam Hartzell (Chair), Linda Reese, Todd Siegfried, Craig Spangenberg, Joann Spangenberg, Herb Shellenberg

SHARED MINISTRY

Kathy Bielinski, Bonnie Gerber, Todd Siegfried, Lauren Morton
Mike Hosfeld (chair)

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Suzanne Bachman, Kathy Bielinski, Kim Bluder, Bonnie Gerber, Pat Handlovic, Jeanine Siegfried, Joan Neff, Susan Vitez, Linda Reese

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Sandra Beahm, Kathy Bielinski, Cheryl Hosfeld (Co-Chair), Mike Hosfeld, John Phillips Jr (Co-Chair), Evan Reese, Linda Reese, Mary Jo Reed, Jeanine Siegfried.

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