



Congregational Communication  
**Congregational Communication**  
Reverend Joel Petruschke

*Our Mission: We respond to Christ's love by feeding those who hunger in body, mind, and spirit.*

**Date: April 16, 2025**

### **What's Happening in the Parish**

Thursday, April 17: Maundy Thursday

**CANCELLED** – *Community Assistance Meal*

**6:00pm** – *Agape Feast & Maundy Thursday Service*

**6:00pm** – Cub Scouts

Friday, April 18: Good Friday

**6:00pm** – ROHI Church Bible Study

**7:00pm** – Good Friday Service @St. Mark,

Mechanicsburg

Saturday, April 19: Holy Saturday

**10:00am** – ROHI Church Youth Group

**CANCELLED** – *Dinner with Friends*

Sunday, April 20: Easter Sunday

**CANCELLED** – *Sunday Church School*

**9:30am** – *Easter Breakfast*

**11:00am** – *Worship Service (Hybrid)*

**1:00pm** – ROHI Church Worship Service

Monday, April 21

**7:00pm** – Boy Scouts

**7:00pm** – Council Meeting

Thursday, April 24

**6:00pm** – Cub Scouts

Friday, April 25

**6:00pm** – ROHI Church Bible Study

Saturday, April 26

**10:00am** – ROHI Church Youth Group

**This Easter Sunday we welcome Pastor Carol Bowman  
to lead us in Worship.**

## Youth Corner:

Attention Families! St. Stephen Church, New Kingstown, will be holding their **Fuse Meetings** on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, at 1PM**. A lunch meal is always served. Bring a side dish to share! This meeting is for kids of any age, 0-18, and the supportive adult in their life, in whatever form that is (parents, grandparents, neighbors, friends, older siblings, extended family, etc.). You don't need to attend St. Stephen Church to attend Fuse! Anyone is welcome! We will have a meal, do some activities and learn a lesson. So come **Fuse** with us!

**\*\*April's Fuse meeting will be on April 27<sup>th</sup> due to the Easter Holiday\*\***

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**EMS Game Night!** Youth in **Grades K-12** are invited the **1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month**, from **6-8pm**, to come play board games with various local **EMS personnel** in the **St. Stephen Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall**! Fill out a short mixer sheet to get to know a little about them, choose from a large collection of games, and have a night of fun, friends, and socialization! All different games and skill levels for different age groups! Are you up for the challenge? Adult sign in at door, required for non-teens during drop off.

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### **Lessons and Legos!**

**5:30-7:30pm**, and occurring the **2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month**! Youth of all ages are invited to come and listen to a short lesson story and then build a Lego creation of their imagination and choosing, pertaining to the lesson story theme, to be displayed for the month within the church! Parents welcomed! Younger kiddos will need adult support.

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**Keep up to date on all of our family activities and events!** You never have to be a member of the church to participate! Download the *Parent Cue App* to your phone, to stay up to date on events, announcements, notices, at home Bible scripture suggestions to use, and more! After adding the app, search for St. Stephen Lutheran Church to synch up to us. Enter your child's information. Bible scriptures and materials offered, will be tailored to your child's specific age group and refresh every Sunday. Under the Church menu, you will find announcements under the News tab, a calendar of events under the Events tab, and my contact info under the Ministries tab, if you have any questions for Jenny.

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**Sunday morning worship- Every Sunday at 11:00AM. All are welcome and loved!**

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Love kids? Can you pass clearances, state and FBI background checks, and safety training? Have free time and want to help out with children's church programing? Contact me for volunteer options! Jenny @[yfmd@ststephenlc.org](mailto:yfmd@ststephenlc.org)

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New survey to take!!! We are gauging interest for a new activity!

**Would you be interested in attending a free, monthly, community movie night, held inside St. Stephen Lutheran Church, if we put it together?** It would consist of a family friendly Disney movie, some from the old school vaults that you may not have heard of, and some from modern times that are favorites! Light refreshments would be offered while you watch! Makes for a great date night or family time out of the house!

Answer on this short 2 question survey. Remember even a "No" is an answer! So let us know, so that we can make the best decision moving forward as to what people want!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YT7YKZY>

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### **Annual Alive Retreat!!!**

ALIVE is the ELCA's annual synod middle-school retreat. This event is for 6th through 8th graders in the fall of 2025. **Our annual fall retreat is scheduled for September 26-28, 2025, at Camp Nawakwa. Cost is \$50/child.**

Congregations from across our synod gather with their adult advisors and youth for this traditionally early fall weekend that includes large group gatherings with singing led by our ALIVE Alumni Band, theme-centered videos and stories, and games, interspersed with small group gatherings, where youth gather with peers and a small group leader, to converse about the theme and its impact in their lives of faith.

This year's theme, 'Better Together,' comes from among other impulses, the notion of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's concept of 'beloved community' and the premise that EVERY human being has value. There is great joy in authentic community, which we strive for at our events, but we are also reminded in scripture that we are rooted in our relationship with Christ, or as the Gospel writer John reminds us, 'apart from me (Jesus), you can do nothing.' In the midst of what sociologists are now referring to as a 'loneliness epidemic' how can our gathered community help strengthen us for the work of discipleship?

Register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/38KC2M2>

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Come join us on April 26th for our Annual Service project of helping to get Camp Nawakwa ready for the Summer Camping Season! They have things for all ages and ability levels to help with. Lunch provided. Contact Jenny if you would like to participate! [yfmd@ststephenlc.org](mailto:yfmd@ststephenlc.org)

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### **Other Announcements:**

**AGAPE FEAST:** Join us on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall for our Agape Feast and Maundy Thursday Service, led by Pastor Marleen Griffith-Stull.

**COMMUNITY MEAL:** The next Community Assistance Meal is Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**DINNER WITH FRIENDS** is cancelled for the month of April. The next DWF is on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

**DONATIONS NEEDED:** The Seminary Food Bank is in need of donations! They are especially grateful for chunky canned soups, condiments and salad dressing, spices/herbs/seasonings, and easy snacks like chips and cookies. They also appreciate non-food items like aluminum foil, paper, towels, zip-loc bags, etc.

**EASTER BREAKFAST:** Join us in Fellowship Hall Easter morning, at 9:30, for breakfast and Easter treats – bring your favorite dish to share!

**GOOD FRIDAY** service will be held at St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church, 117 W. Keller St. Mechanicsburg.

**VISITATION:** Elisabeth Hansen is now at Sarah Todd Memorial Home: 1000 W. South St. in Carlisle. Visitors are welcome and appreciated



### **Sunday worship begins at 11:00am**

This is hybrid worship, meaning that we worship both in person and online at the same time. If you worship online, please introduce yourself to others online and greet other folks that you aren't familiar with. We also invite those worshipping online to provide their own elements of bread and wine/grape juice in order to participate in communion.

### **Accessing worship online**

You can attend online worship by clicking this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/410597064?pwd=b3lEa2hnbmtxU2kvYVhxUGN6ZWdoUT09>

**You can also call: 1-929-205-6099.** Once connected, just enter the Meeting ID: 410 597 064 and the password: 779080.

**Or, you can find the direct link on our church webpage:** [www.ststephenlc.org](http://www.ststephenlc.org). Scroll halfway down to the link that says, "Join us online." Click the link and you'll be connected to the Zoom session.

## Worship Assistants:

| Date    | Supply Pastor/<br>Worship Leader | Usher/<br>Greeter | Cantor       | Lector          | Assisting Minister | Alter Guild                         | AV Support                     | Counters                       |
|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 4/20/25 | Rev. Carol Bowman                | --                | Lynne Immell | Roger Immell    | Lynne Immell       | Maxine Montgomery/<br>Becky Rensel  | Cheryl Neidig/<br>Randy Neidig | Roger Immell/                  |
| 4/27/25 | Rev. Elaine Dent                 | --                | Lynne Immell | Carol Clelland  | Lynne Immell       | Maxine Montgomery/<br>Cheryl Neidig | Cheryl Neidig/<br>Randy Neidig | Le Ewell/                      |
| 5/4/25  | Rev. Carol Bowman                | --                | Lynne Immell | Pat Gilmore-Lee | Lynne Immell       | Maxine Montgomery/<br>Becky Rensel  | Randy Neidig                   | Roger Immell/<br>Cheryl Neidig |
| 5/11/25 | Rev. Carol Bowman                | --                | Lynne Immell | Pat Seiple      | Lynne Immell       | Maxine Montgomery/<br>Cheryl Neidig | Randy Neidig                   | Roger Immell/<br>Cheryl Neidig |

## Prayer Requests:

| Date                          | Name                        | Connection  | Request  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Chronic or Long-Term Requests |                             |   |  |
| 06/09/24                      | Roger Myers                 | Member  | Roger is undergoing cancer treatment.  |
| 10/22/24                      | Pat Gilmore – Lee           | Member  | Please continue to pray for strength, healing and courage for Pat who has received a cancer diagnosis. If you would like to send her a card, please use the following address: 325 Wesley Dr. Apt. 201 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 |
| 12/09/24                      | Tom Burson                  | Member  | Tom is recovering at Country Meadows. Please continue to pray for Tom and Kathy.   |
| 02/18/25                      | Roger Immell                | Member  | Please hold Roger up in prayer. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will sustain him as he deals with more health issues and that his spirit within and faith remains steady.   |
| Temporary Requests            |                             |   |  |
| 02/18/25                      | Jacob Owens                 |   | Jacob is doing much better and is at home with PT. He is hoping to return to school soon. Thank you for your prayers.  |
| 02/18/25                      | Brittney Hampton            |   | Brittany is in hospice at the hospital after all tubes and oxygen were removed. The family is at her side, planning to move her home to pass. Please continue to pray for her and the whole family.                            |
| 02/18/25                      | Kristin Pagent              |   | Kristin is recovering nicely at home after a double mastectomy. Thank you for your prayers.  |
| 02/25/25                      | Karen Livingston            | Member  | Please pray for Karen as she is dealing with the effects of chemotherapy after cancer surgery.   |
| 3/18/25                       | Charlyn                     | Friend and former colleague of Caroline Sheaffer. | Please pray for Charlyn. She was recently diagnosed with lymphoma.   |
| 3/25/25                       | Julie Donovan Simmons       | Daughter of Lynne Immell's college roommate.      | Julie's breast cancer has returned. Please pray for her and her family's well-being, confidence in her doctors' choices of treatments, and God's peace as she goes through another round of treatment.                         |
| 3/31/25                       | Barbara Orwan               | Daughter of former member, Keith Bailey.          | Barbara, a cancer survivor, is now suffering from a brain infection that requires daily injections and heavy antibiotics. Both Keith and Barbara are in need of prayers of comfort.  |
| 4/10/25                       | Barb Miller                 | Friend of a former student of Lynne Immell.       | Barb will be in rehab for 3 weeks and will be discharged to an apartment arrangement since the fire. She will be cared for by Lynne's former student.  |
| 4/12/25                       | Kent Clelland               | Son of Carol and Ken.                             | Kent was admitted to the hospital on Saturday and several tests are being completed  |
| 4/13/25                       | Butch Rowe                  | Member  | Please pray for Butch as she experiences some medical conditions that bring discomfort to her daily life.  |
| 4/13/25                       | Sam Ranaudo                 | Friend of Caroline and Lloyd Sheaffer.            | Sam is undergoing a complicated surgery for a malignant obstruction in his bile duct.  |
| 4/14/25                       | Pastor Emeritus, Don Seiple | Member  | He has been dealing with chronic back pain for many months. He will be undergoing a procedure early next week to treat it and hopefully bring him some relief.   |