

# 2025

# PRAYER LIST

Jim Hayward, Jeanette Anderson, Carolyn Gibbons, Michele Mehne, Dani Zweifel, Jim Loehr, Norm Peterson, CarolAnn Peterson, Marcy Bell, Zane Heinkel, Family and friends of Ryan Cochems, and ALL THOSE MOURNING THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES, MILITARY – and all loved ones serving overseas.

#### ST. PETER'S VOLUNTEERS FOR NOVEMBER

LADIES OF THE MONTH: Colleen Bolchen, Leslie Peterson

ALTAR CARE: Leslie Peterson, Sara Stanek

CHURCH CLEANING: Month of November: Marci Martin, Kali Scholze

#### ST. STEPHEN'S VOLUNTEERS FOR NOVEMBER

USHERS: Mike Macrafic READER: Melissa Chambers

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Brian Ritchart

PREPARE COMMUNION: Ruth Kemp, Tracy Kemp

#### **AUGUST FINANCES**

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St. Stephen's		St. Peter's			
General Fund Income	10,027.40	Income	6,133.87		
Expenses	4,274.28	Expenses	5,041.97		
Balance of Funds		Balance of Funds			
General	3,042.41	General	2,899.78		
Building	2,260.72 Memorial		10,047.95		
Memorial	12,117.91	Congregational Care	1,047.21		
Parsonage	21,735.06	Parsonage – Savings	12,372.45		
-		Checking	2,823.61		
		Sabbatical Reserve Fund	2,263.61		
		Amount needed to meet our budget:			
		\$ 6,744.40 per month based on our			
		approved Budget of \$80.932.80.			

"O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples" – 1 Chronicles 16:8



Last month we celebrated one of my favorite Sundays of the year. On October 5<sup>th</sup> we blessed the various quilts and kits to be sent off to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). This year we blessed 42 quilts, 64 health kits, 36 school kits and 11 baby kits at St. Peter's. At St. Stephen's we blessed 110 quilts, 36 health kits, 48 school kits, and 36 baby kits. So, for those doing the math we made and blessed 152 quilts, 100 health/personal kits, 84 school kits, and 47 baby kits. Can I just say, "That's awesome!"?! It's amazing to see a visible representation of the congregations generosity.

Let me also say, "THANK YOU!" Thanks for ALL of your giving.

Now, here is the hard part. Your church council is starting the budgeting process for the coming year. One of the things we will discover as we look closer at the numbers is that we are scraping by or even falling behind in places. That means we are asking you to give even more for the sake of doing ministry in the world. I believe God still has a great many ways God wants to use our two congregations in our communities. Let's show Camp Douglas and Shennington the mighty ways that God is at work through us.

Let's do some more math (I know, everybody's favorite). If we were to average 25 people in worship each Sunday and each person gave an extra \$5 each week that would amount to an extra \$6,500 per congregation per year. What if we gave more? What other ministry might we be able to do? How much more might we be able to impact the world around us? Where might God be calling us next?

Some of you might be thinking I am asking a lot. And you are probably right. However, remember where we started. Did you pay attention to how many quilts and kits we gave away this year to make the world a better place? Generosity is in our DNA. It's in our mission statements. How might you, personally, choose to live out your generosity?

Blessings,

Pr. Brad <><



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### **ST. PETER'S WELCA NEWS**

Women of the ELCA will meet Thursday, November 13th at 7 p.m. Devotions: Leslie P. Discussion: events in November and December, distribute benevolence from rummage sales and Operation Christmas.

The Packer Fund Raiser is Sunday, November 9th after church service with potluck. Your participation is needed for items on a Chinese Raffle and maybe a Silent Auction. All are welcome.

Thankoffering Sunday is November 16th. This special offering is in gratitude for blessings received during the year. The offering is used to help life changing ministries of the Women of the ELCA. You may leave it in the offering plate designated to the Women or give it to one of the officers. This is separate from the regular offering.

Handbooks will be compiled at the end of November or early December, please let one of the WELCA officers know if you would like to change or volunteer for other duties. There is a need for Ladies of the Month, Altar Care and Church cleaning. Thank you to all who have carried out their responsibilities. It is noticed.

Rummage sales for this year have been completed. Thank you to donors, workers, and buyers at the sales. A total of \$1,004 was raised. Thank you to those that are boxing up unsold items and distributing them, esp. Mitchelle.

Craft Days are scheduled for Friday, November 28, 9:00 am -7p.m. and Saturday, November 29—9:00 am -5p.m. See Leslie P. for reservations.

LWR Boxes consisted of 42 quilts, 64 health, 36 school, and 11 baby kits plus 7 quilts to local and 6 to Beds for Kids. Thank you to Kathy and Marty for delivering to La X.

Thank you to those who came out for the Fall St. Peter's Cemetery Clean-up. It worked wonders with Mike P. getting the Toro leaf blower and the many hands from Rod, Lee, Andrew, Dustin, Pete, Charlie F., Larry & Bonnie B., Greg & Norma S., Connie, Carlene & Tom Z.



# St. Stephen's WELCA News

# Opportunities coming up

- Thankoffering (boxes, envelopes, etc) will be celebrated during worship on November 16. "The spiritual practice of collecting Thankofferings began in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Women would place a Thankoffering container or "mite" box on the windowsill or other prominent place in their home. They would then place small offerings into the box, sometimes, daily, to acknowledge God's blessings."
- On December 7<sup>th</sup>, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent, a "free-will" offering will be collected for the support of St. Stephen's W-ELCA.
- Also, coming up in early December The "Jolliest of Them All" holiday vender fair at the community center will be on December 13<sup>th</sup>. We have been asked again to provide a lunch menu at the event as well as our usual table set-up for craft and bakery items. So, be getting at those craft projects, and check out your recipes in preparation for baking your specialties!
- Last, but not least .... seeking someone to be an officer for the W-ELCA group, specifically the president/leader position. All women of the congregation are eligible.

# St. Stephen's Council

Thank you to Gyneth and Kathy for all of their talents that have been shared throughout the years for St. Stephens

On October 27<sup>th</sup> we served at the Tomah Community Table with St. Peter's. We had 75 guests for spaghetti and meatballs.





To Pastor Brad and St. Stephen's Church Family,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Pastor Brad and my church family for the special recognition given me for my many years as church organist as St. Stephen's While taking piano lessons I never dreamed or thought of becoming a church organist for St. Peter's and later, St. Stephen's. Thank you for the wonderful luncheon and fellowship hour following worship. Thanks to all who furnished the delicious food and to Hazel for the beautifully decorated cake in honor of Kathy and me.

I must say you are all very good at keeping a secret! Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart. God Bless each & every one of you.

-Love, Gyneth

Dear Members of St. Stephen's,

As most of you know, I have made the decision to step down from my role as church pianist and will soon be attending a new church. Saying goodbye is never easy, but I want to express how deeply grateful I am for all the wonderful memories over the years.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your encouragement, friendship, and unwavering support throughout my time here. Serving as your pianist over the years has been an incredible honor and a true blessing in my life.

My goal is to ensure that this transition is as seamless as possible for everyone. Please know that I will always be available to help out whenever needed, and I am just a phone call away if you require any assistance.

The cake, coffee and other treats provided in honor of my mom and myself was a wonderful surprise. Although I will miss you all dearly, I am confident that this is the right decision for Kevin and I at this time. Thank you once again for everything.

God's Blessings, Kathy

Word	Search
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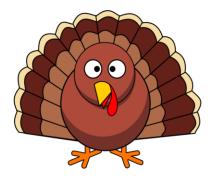
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# Thanksgiving "Foods"

OVOE LWRSE S Ν S Ι Ν G U Ε J Ν Y Η Ζ F F 0 RKA R Ν В K Ε Α Ε Ε Η Ε S Ε E R E Ν В Ε Ε Ε Ε 0 Ε M G D  $\mathbf{E}$ Y Ρ R Ι  $\mathbf{L}$ Р W F  $\mathbf{E}$ M Η Ι Y Α LKHO G W  $\mathbf{L}$ В W K

# Word list:

**BREAD GREENBEANS PUMPKINPIE ROLLS CARROTS HAM SALADS CASSEROLE HONEY CORN NUTS SQUASH CORNBREAD PEAS STUFFING PECANPIE CRANBERRIES SWEETPOTATOES** DRESSING PIE **TURKEY GRAVY POTATOES YAMS** 



	November 2025							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
						1 (S) 9:00 Quilting Turn Clocks Back 1 Hour (S)Chris Woggon		
ALL SAINTS DAY 9:00(P)Worship/HC	3 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word	4 (P) 5:30 Quilting (S)Elizabeth Wagenson	5 6:30 Confirmation @ Peace	6	7	8 (S) 9:00 Quilting		
	10 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word	11	12 9:30 Women's Birthday Breakfast 6:30 Confirmation @ Peace (S)Tanya Wilkinson	13 (P) 7:00 WELCA (P)Jared Potter	14	15 (S) 9:00 Quilting (S) Kayleigh Gunther		
	17 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word (S)Gyneth Ness	18 (P) 5:30 Quilting (S)Kathy Niles (P)Hunter Wagner	19 6:30 Confirmation @ Peace	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21	22 (S) 9:00 Quilting		
	24 (P) 6:00 Wrestling with the Word	<b>25</b> (P) 5:30 Quilting	26	27 THANKSGIVING  (P)Tom Zaremba	(S)Diane Wilde (P)Danielle Wagner	29 (S) 9:00 Quilting		
30 9:00(P)Worship/HC 10:30(S) Worship/HC (S)Courtney Runke		1						