

Our Vision

Rich and varied worship

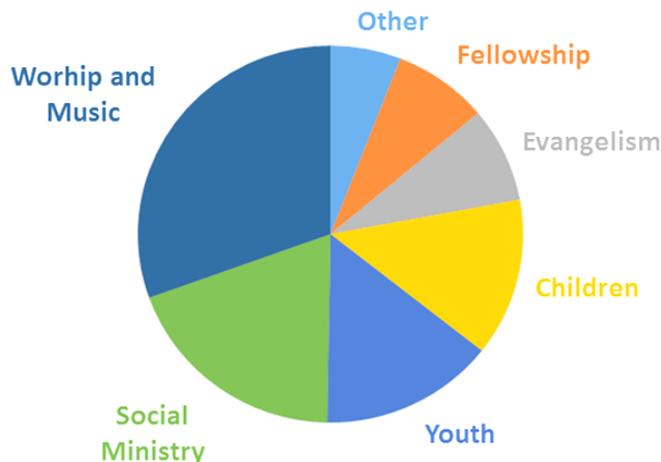
Pastoral care for those in special need

Growing children and youth ministries

Support all our members on their walk with Christ

Our Focus

The chart below shows where our gifts of treasure go. It shows how much we spend on individual ministries. The bigger the pie slice, the more we spend on a ministry. The four largest pie slices are the ministries of worship & music, youth, children, and social ministry (which includes pastoral care and visitation). As we serve the church's mission, these are the ministries we value the most and receive the greater portion of our gifts of treasure.



The Year Ahead

The 2020 budget continues to focus on what is most important to St. Stephen members.

Worship We offer a variety of worship experiences. Whether it is Sunday traditional, Sunday contemporary, or Wednesday evening praise, all our members will find meaningful worship at St Stephen.

Youth And Children The number of youth and children continues to grow. Our giving to these ministries represents not only an investment in the spiritual growth of our youth and children, but an investment in the future of St Stephen.

Social Ministry In addition to leading worship and spiritual growth, our pastors devote a great amount of their time caring for those in need.

2020 Proposed Budget

STAFF EXPENSE	\$353,075
OFFICE EXPENSE	\$18,000
ADMINISTRATION	\$17,325
OPERATIONS	\$24,070
MAINTENANCE	\$10,000
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	\$3,875
YOUTH MINISTRY	\$6,850
WORSHIP AND MUSIC	\$10,800
EVANGELISM	\$7,250
FELLOWSHIP	\$6,650
STEWARDSHIP	\$1,200
SOCIAL MINISTRY	\$350
ADULT LEARNING	\$250
TOTAL	\$459,695

Pledge What You Can

2020 will be an incredible year in the life of St. Stephen Lutheran Church.

We have a vision of the future. We have a talented and dedicated staff. We have a congregation that is welcoming and supports each other.

To continue to fulfill our mission and vision, we need everyone to give faithfully, joyfully, generously, and from the first fruits of their **treasure**.

Thank you for your generous giving!

You Choose How Your Gift is Used

Current Fund is used to pay for all salaries, utilities, maintenance, office supplies, operations, postage and fund all of our Ministry Programs.

Capital Fund is used for capital improvements and large maintenance expenses including, furnace replacement and parking lot improvement.

Benevolence Fund is used to support ministry work outside of our walls including support of the ELCA, St. Paul Area Synod, Tanzania and various other ministries.

This is what the Bible tells us about God's promise in return for our stewardship.

"Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. I will rebuke the locust for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil; and the vine in your field shall not be barren, says the Lord of hosts. Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, says the Lord of hosts.

Malachi 3, 10-12

God expects the best from us, and he blesses us in return . The promise of his blessings is what compels us to be good stewards and support His work in the world.



ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN CHURCH
A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY BRINGING GOD'S LOVE TO THE WORLD.

Please fill out and return your pledge card by Nov. 10th.

Thank you for your discipleship to St Stephen and continued support of its ministries!

Stewardship 2020

Moving Forward In Faith Together

Welcome to the Ministries of St. Stephen in 2020

What does stewardship have to do with the ministries of the church? Everything. Stewardship is everything we do as Christians after we declare *I believe*. It is how we work together to drive our ministries. Without stewardship, there would be no ministries.

We declare a faith in Christ and then ask *what can I do to exercise my faith?* The answer is that we get to choose what our personal journeys with Christ will be and what ministries we will support along the way. We make our journeys as members of our church family. That is why we call our stewardship program **Moving Forward In Faith Together.**

It's Not Fundraising

Stewardship is not fundraising. It is giving in return for God's blessings in our lives. In return for the promise of his blessings he expects us:

- To give **Faithfully.** We live with faith and we give with the faith that His work will be done with our gifts.
- To give **Joyfully.** Joy is greater than happiness. While happiness can be short-lived, we can choose to be joyful always in everything we do.
- To give **Generously.** Tithing or not, we seek to be generous in all we do for others.
- To give of **Our First Fruits** Give to God *first* what you are able, and then take care of the rest. First fruits are our best gifts.