

Children's Ministry

October 30 – Reformation Sunday
November 6 – First Food Shelf Sunday
November 20 – Hat & Mitten Tree
November 27 – Advent Sunday

10:30 Reformation Sunday is also Confirmation Sunday. The confirmation service typically lasts (up to one-half hour) longer than usual. Children from the 10:30 Sunday school are welcome to attend the 9:00 Sunday School this week. If you choose to attend the 10:30 service as usual, be assured that our Sunday school is well equipped to deal with the longer service.

Teenage Volunteer Opportunity

We are in need of Sunday School Class Assistants. Confirmation students can meet their required hours of service by helping in a Sunday school class. It is NOT necessary to commit to every Sunday. Please contact Deb Nelson, Children's Ministry Director, to obtain a volunteer application form.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We need adult or teen volunteers to help in the Nursery. (Confirmands get service hour credit.) The lead caregiver is in charge, and volunteers do NOT change diapers! Volunteers play with the children, are another pair of loving hands. You may want to read to a little one. For further information, please contact Deb Nelson, Children's Ministry Director, or Sue Lemon, Nursery Coordinator.

Wednesday Evening Registration

Can't make it here on Sunday? Join us on Wednesdays! **Kindergarten students through SIXTH Grade students are welcome** to join us in the fellowship hall, every Wednesday evening, from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm, for FaithWeaver Friends. We gather as a large group to participate in a skit. Then we break into smaller groups for projects, games, snacks, or other activities and surprises. We also take time to journal how the Bible topic affects us in our lives. **NEW!!!!!! Starting November 2nd, we will add a four-year-old/kindergarten group to our rotation.** This age group will begin the hour in the Kindergarten Classroom. **Pre-registration is required. Please contact the church office to register.** Four year old through sixth grade Sunday School students are also welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings, as **our Wednesday program does NOT duplicate our Sunday program.**

YARN!

Can't find time to knit that scarf? Please consider donating the yarn to Children's Ministry as we are in need of YARN. You may place donations of yarn in the church office. Thank you, in advance, for your donations.

Toys for Iraqi Tots!

Sunday School is collecting new, or slightly used, toys to be donated to Orphans in Iraq. One of our members serving in Iraq requested this service project. Please place your donations in the box located next to the piano.

First Food Shelf Sunday

November 6 will be our next "First Food Shelf Sunday." Please donate non-perishables to help our Sunday school meet our ongoing goal to donate more food this year than was donated last year. We are barely ahead of last year after the decrease in donations over the summer and in September. Please continue to place your non-perishable donations in the grocery cart by the front door. Sunday School thanks you for your donations.

January – August 2004 = 1214 pounds
January – August 2005 = 1339 pounds
September 2004 = 213 pounds
September 2005 = 115 pounds

Food Shelf matching Donations

Stretch your food shelf donation! Cash donations made in the month of November will qualify for a special Minnesota Foodshare program with Thrivent contributing additional funds if the donations are marked accordingly. Please make your check out to St. Stephen Lutheran and place it in an envelope marked "Minnesota FoodShare." St. Stephen, in turn, will send the donation to Minnesota Foodshare, designating the money to the White Bear Lake Area Food Shelf.

The next Steppingstone will go out on November 8th. Articles need to be turned in to the church office by Sun., November 6th.

Our prayers and condolences go to Deanna Henk on the death of her father; to Cheryl Grasmoen on the death of her step father; to Nancy Erickson on the death of her aunt; to Dave Erickson on the death of his brother-in-law; to Marlys Hansen on the death of her nephew; to Ruth Wilm on the death of her mother; and to Wendell & Lorna Peck on the death of their nephew, David.

Mavis Garrett wishes to thank Pastor Dan for his visit and prayers. Also, all the members that sent cards and prayers on her recent illness. Thanks again.

Touch a Child's Life this Christmas

Please consider making a donation to Operation Christmas Child, the world's largest children's Christmas project, sponsored by Franklin Graham and Samaritan's Purse. The 6th grade Sunday School Class is collecting shoeboxes filled with gifts to send to needy children across the world. There will be a table set up in the Narthex with brochures explaining what to include in your boxes and how to prepare them for donation. Boxes need to be dropped off in the Narthex by November 20, so they can get to the children by Christmas. If you would prefer to make a cash donation, the 6th grade class can do the purchasing and packing for you. PLEASE help us reach our goal of 75 shoeboxes to let 75 children know that God loves them! Contact Cindy Scott (651-426-3721) with any questions.

Relay for Life Update

The 11th year of the White Bear Lake Relay for Life was held this past July, with 96 teams registered (over 1300 participants). \$319,000 has been received, with money still coming in. Thank you to everyone who participated in any way and helped to make this event a tremendous success!!

- Dave & Barb Anderson -

with keyboard artist Dale Pust

A Concert of Praise &
Encouragement

Sunday, November 13th, at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of praise fellowship, and testimony to the miraculous power of our God!

Adult Forum

November 6 – December 18
“Surprized by Suffering” video and study guide by R.C. Sproul – led by Rolf Iverson. A continuation of last year’s discussion on “common objections to Christianity”, namely, how does a loving God allow suffering?

YOUTH

Grades 10-12

Pier leadership training – first & third Sundays of each month at noon in the youth room. Lead adults – Fred Bartling and Lisa Woodruff.

Saturday, November 5th – evening Senior High Surprise Event – sign up on the Youth Bulletin Board.

Middle School

Friday, October 28th – Annual Halloween Party – 7:00-10:00. Cost \$5.00. Lead adult – John Rohr.

Fall Confirmation Retreat at WAPO - November 18th-20th.

St. Stephen 7th Annual Holly Boutique & Bake Sale

*Saturday, November 12th
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

Choose from a wonderful selection of handcrafted items, freshly baked breads, cookies and rolls and start your holiday shopping early.

Enjoy lunch & music while shopping.

Proceeds to benefit the women’s shelter, homeless children, the White Bear Food Shelf and projects here at St. Stephen.