

St. Stephen United Church of Christ

Worshipping God Loving People Making a Difference

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Here's a story some claim is true: A man was standing in line at the bank when there was a commotion at the counter. A woman was distressed, exclaiming, "Where will I put my money?! I have all my money and my mortgage here!! What will happen to my mortgage?!"

It turned out that she had misunderstood a small sign on the counter. The sign read, WE WILL BE CLOSED FOR GOOD FRIDAY. I guess Easter was not uppermost in her thoughts, because she thought that the bank was going to close "for good" that coming Friday.

I often think about the close proximity of the closing of the grave on Friday and the opening of the grave on Sunday. If the grave is never closed; would the opening be less altering to history as well as to our futures?

When someone graduates, it closes one door and opens another door to the future.

When someone gets fired, it closes one door and opens another door to a new future.

When someone gets married, it closes two doors and opens a new door for both.

When someone dies, it closes one door and opens a new door to eternity.

When Jesus' tomb was closed on Good Friday and then opened by God on Easter morn, it was a deep theological event that has life changing effects for you and me.

What doors are you struggling with in your life? Are there doors that are labeled: addiction, embarrassment, guilt, frustration, shame, apathy, loneliness, grief, regret, hurt, dysfunction, depression, anxiety, lust, envy, unfaithfulness, sorrow, low-self-esteem, failure, dementia, displacement, unemployment, underemployed, financial, pride, glutton, laziness, rejecting God?

Let this upcoming Good Friday/Easter event close the door on your struggle and open a new door with a more Godly like future. When one door closes another one opens up; let God show you this path to a new, different and more hopeful life.

By the way, we will not be closed on Good Friday, and we will also be open on Easter; both days, we will leave the Light on for you.

Shalom and Amen.

In the immortal words of George Macleod:
"Crucified, not between two candlesticks on an altar, but between two thieves on a hill."



Maundy Thursday & Good Friday Services

Worship Service begins at 7pm both days

Mar. 28 - Maundy Thursday Service - Communion

Mar. 29 - Good Friday Service

UPCOMING SERMON THEMES

March 24, 2013

Palm Sunday

Confirmation Sunday

Into Jerusalem

Luke 19:28-40



March 28, 2013

Maundy Thursday

March 29, 2013

Good Friday

March 31, 2013

Easter Sunday

Resurrection Joy

John 20:1-18

April 7, 2013

Second Sunday of Easter

Resurrection Witness

Acts 5:27-32

April 14, 2013

Third Sunday of Easter

The Way Forward

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

April 21, 2013

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Live-giving Acts

Acts 9:36-43

Mission 4/1 Earth Fifty Great Days

Mission 4/1 Earth is a mission project developed by the United Church of Christ to be shared with the local churches and their congregations from Easter Monday, April 1, 2013 through Pentecost, Sunday May 19, 2013. The Mission Committee has voted to adopt a portion of this project. There are three goals of this mission. Goal number one is for the UCC to reach 1 million hours of engaged earth care. Goal number two is to plant 100,000 trees locally and globally. Goal number three is to write 100,000 advocacy letters. We know at this time that our efforts will be applied to goals one and two. There are many, many ways in which the Congregation can support this program.

The one thing we do know is that the choices we have made for our planet earth have not always been the wisest. We have acted with greed, injustice, and arrogance. Our choices have affected farmlands, waterways, and the air which we breathe. This program is intended to make us more aware of our choices for God's creation and that one individual can make a difference in caring for our Earth. More details will be coming very soon as the Mission Committee sets their goals in saying "Thank you God for giving us this earth and we will help in taking care of it".

Council Highlights

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

March 12, 2013

- An appraiser has been found to assess the value of the old parsonage. All recommendations will be brought before the congregation before any decisions are made.
- Progress has been made on the repairs to the sign in front of our church. Hopefully this can be done in the near future.
- Gary Leitner will need a volunteer for the FLC on Wednesday nights when Lent is over. Please see Gary if you are interested.
- The menu for the Easter breakfast has changed this year. It will be ham and biscuits, hard boiled eggs, assorted pastries and yogurts and breakfast beverages.
- Please see Lisa Nolley if you are interested to attending summer camp this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Hoback



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



- April 2 - Emma Jean Mosier
- April 4 - Ruth Lane
Jean Slusher
- April 8 - Jack Bensing, C. J. Wieting
- April 9 - Chris Alan Craven
- April 10 - Tom Schlatter, Debbie Judd,
Elmira Bott
- April 15 - Eric Hoback
- April 18 - Jason Gregory
- April 19 - Mary Lee Simpson, Sandra Trusty
- April 20 - Angela Tatum Bijlani
- April 21 - Patti Durbin
- April 22 - Charles Leanhart
- April 24 - Dorothy Lea
- April 26 - Morgan Willoughby,
Clayton Willoughby
- April 27 - Rachael Elliott
- April 28 - Holly Poyser

Prayer Wheel

Please sign up on the Prayer Wheel for a thirty minute block of time during our **24 Hour Prayer Vigil** beginning after Maundy Thursday Worship on March 28th. Thank you for taking part this year. You are rendering a service to your brothers and sisters in Christ and to God with your participation.

EASTER SERVICES

Please join us **March 31** for:
Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m.
Easter Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.
Easter Service at 10:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast Menu

Ham & Biscuits, Hard-boiled Eggs, Assorted Pastries, Yogurt, & Breakfast Beverages

*****Please remember to sign up for Easter Breakfast. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board.*****

ALANON Meetings

St. Stephen UCC is now hosting ALANON meetings every Tuesday morning at 10:30am in the Hope Room of the Family Life Center (Rm 107-108). Anyone is welcome to attend.

HEAD USHERS

MONTH OF MARCH:

Jenny Elmore

MONTH OF APRIL

George Rogers



CHILDREN'S CHURCH/NURSERY WORKERS

APRIL

- 7 - Victoria Bauer
- 14 - Joyce Bray
- 21 - Anne Goble
- 28 - Nancy Skinner

MAY

- 5 - Jordan Nolley
- 12 - Kathy Bauer
- 19 - Tina Harper
- 26 - Frankie Williams

PERFECT ATTENDANCE SUNDAY SCHOOL
MONTH OF FEBRUARY

Men's Class: Jim Harper III, Bill Kroeckel, Herb Raderer, Sam Raderer

New Generation: Jenny Elmore, Carleen Leitner, Gary Leitner, Lisa Nolley, Jeannie Raderer, Janet Storm, Richard Storm

Middle School: None

High School: Madison Harper



The next Builder will be sent out April 17th. The last day to submit articles will be April 14th.
Early submissions are appreciated!

Newsletter
Deadline



Christian Education

Summer Camp will be here before we know it. Camp dates for Merom will be June 17-22. Children going into the third grade through graduating this year are eligible to attend. The cost is \$320, with church paying half of the cost. Registration needs to be in no later than May 15, or a late fee will be assessed. If you have any questions or if your child is interested in attending, please see Lisa Nolley for further details.

Another event that will be here soon is Vacation Bible School. We are going to try something different this year. We will hold a Bible study one Saturday a month during the summer. Dates and times have not been set yet. Watch the bulletin and builder for further details. Please begin thinking about how you can help with this outreach program.

During the Wednesday Lenten services, child care will be provided for children six years of age and younger. Child care will also be provided on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and both Easter services. If you have any questions or would be willing to help with these services, please see someone on the committee.

Thank you again for your continued support of the Christian Education Committee.

St. Stephen UCC Annual Yard Sale

Be sure to mark your calendars for the St. Stephen UCC Yard Sale set tentatively for Saturday, June 15th. As you begin your spring cleaning this year, remember to bring your discarded "treasures" to the church to be placed in our yard sale!



<u>Spaghetti Supper - 2013</u>				
	<u>Startup</u>	<u>Sales Net</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
es			<u>Cash</u>	
Food	\$1,331.00	(\$460.68)	(\$90.00)	\$780.32
Baked Goods	\$177.75	\$0.00	(\$30.00)	\$147.75
Net 2013:				\$928.07
Net 2012:				\$934.27
Difference:				(\$6.20)
♦ Thanks again to everyone who helped with , donated to, and attended this year's Spaghetti Supper. Your continued support is what makes events like these a success!				

The Kentuckiana Association will gather...
Sunday, April 7, 2013 at Bethlehem UCC
2:30p - Registration
3:00p - Gathering (followed by a light supper)
Lay delegates, authorized ministers and guests are invited.

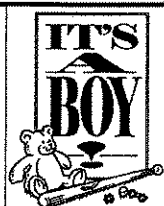
Bulletin Sponsors

The Bulletins on March 10th were sponsored by Ruth Lane in memory of Ray Lane and his birthday on March 11th.

The Bulletins on March 17th were sponsored by Blanche and Charles Baxter in memory of Charles' parents Elsie and Charles Baxter.



Congratulations to Kim and Todd Jennings on the birth of their twin baby boys, Shawn Edward and Nicholas Rush on Friday, March 15, 2013. Shawn Edward weighed in at 7 lbs 2 oz and Nicholas Rush weighed 6 lbs 10 oz. We would also like to congratulate the proud grandparents Dennis and Linda Jennings on these precious new additions to their family!





Thank you notes received this month from:

- The Rev. Tim Moseley, President/CEO of Wayside Christian Mission, thanking the congregation of St. Stephen UCC for the generous gift given in February. The donation will be used to provide lifesaving assistance to homeless and struggling people in our community.

THANK YOU

Friends on our Prayer List who have been hospitalized since our last issue...

Emma Jean Mosier

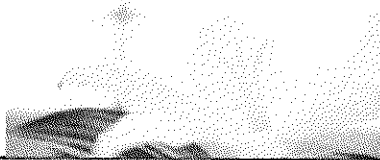
Please remember those who are at home or at a care-giver facility...

Thelma Goss, Magdaline Kuchenbrod, Mary Musick, Virginia Cahill, Hubert & Jean Slusher, Michael Roney, Mildred Schaeflein, Larry McAllister, Bill Montgomery, Charles Waller Sr., Charles Baxter, Emma Jean Mosier, Jerry Mosier, Hazel Carroll, Leslie Schmidt

A Note from Bill Montgomery....

I would like to express my deepest sympathies to Mrs. Doris Bauer and the entire Bauer family on the recent loss of Stuart. I want the Bauer family to know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all during this sorrowful time.

In Love of Christ,
Bill Montgomery



The following have given memorial gifts in memory of Stuart A. Bauer:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Rudy and JoAnn Mosier | George Rogers |
| Carolyn Hubbard | Lisa Nolley |
| Janice Osterman | C.J. Wieting |
| Carol Kramer | Barbara Perry |
| Sharon Marquardt | Dale H. Paxton |
| Ronald Hubbard | Jenny Elmore |
| Peter Hubbard | Ralph Gosling |
| Grace & Steven Sternberg | Pat Panter |
| Joe & Becky Flaherty | Michael A. Dicken |
| Robert & Delores Dale | Carol Hampton |
| Gary & Carleen Leitner | Melvin Trusty |
| Kevin & Cindy Sheehan | Jack Bensing |
| Dennis & Linda Jennings | William Kroeckel |
| Sam & Marcie Raderer | Linda Vogel |
| Marilyn & M.L. Perryman, Jr. | Sondra Ferren |
| Todd & Kim Jennings & Family | Ruth Lane |
| Lillilu & Tony Tabler | Thelma Goss |
| Nancy & Wayne Skinner | Frankie Williams |
| Russ & Penny Kline | Angie Lowen |
| Irvin & Peggy Schmidt | Don & Kathy Bauer |
| Mike & Cathy Bauer | Anonymous |

**St. Stephen UCC
Golf Scramble**



The Annual St Stephen UCC Golf Scramble is schedule for May 18th at Seneca Golf Course. Your help with door prizes, hole sponsors, or donations would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to participate or have any questions please see Richard Storm or call him at 449-0257.

MEMORIAL GIFTS



A memorial gift was given by Charles Forrest in memory of Wanda Cox.

A memorial gift was given by The Clarence Lowen Family in memory of Jacob J. Hepp



The following is an updated address submitted to the Church Office. Please make a note of the change.

**Jim & Joni Lyman
1449 S. Reed Street
Louisville, KY 80232-5524**



**Confirmation & Reception
Sunday March 24th**

Congratulations to this year's Confirmands Breonna Annette Stamper, Camryn Kemper Harper, Sarah Ruth Goble, and Ellen Elizabeth Goble. Confirmation with a reception following will be held Palm Sunday, March 24th.

ST. STEPHEN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 TREASURER'S REPORT - February 28, 2013

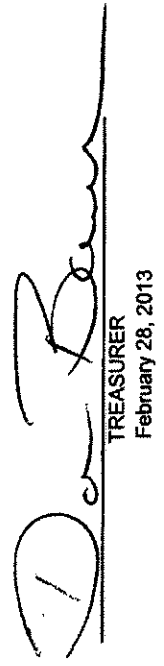
	BENEVOLENCES						TOTALS
	GENERAL FUND	REGULAR	GOOD SAMARITAN	REACH FOR TOMORROW	CHRISTIAN ED FUND	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	
BALANCE 01/31/13	(12,717.68)	2,097.01	(425.88)	2,663.79	3,829.47	8,789.40	6,948.48
RECEIPTS	23,682.87	402.65			42.50	0.00	1,408.00
FUND TRANSFER	(2,571.60)	2,357.30	214.30				25,536.02
FUND TRANSFER	5,356.48						(5,356.48)
TOTALS	13,750.07	4,856.96	(211.58)	2,663.79	3,871.97	8,789.40	3,000.00
DISBURSEMENTS	19,436.79	2,567.65	354.18		186.74	0.00	0.00
BALANCE 02/28/13	(5,686.72)	2,289.31	(565.76)	2,663.79	3,685.23	8,789.40	1,694.27

NOTE: SAVINGS ACCOUNT BREAKDOWN

SCHOLARSHIP FUND	3,626.69
MISSIONS COMM. FUND	1,167.23
YOUTH FUND	313.20

NOTE: FLC - RENTALS : 120.00
 FLC - WALKERS 50.00

NOTE 1: SALES OF KROGER CERTIFICATES NETTED
 ST. STEPHEN DURING Feb 2013


 TREASURER
 February 28, 2013

RECAPITULATION OF DEPOSITORIES AS OF ----->

CHECKING ACCOUNTS:		01/31/2013
PNC CHECKING	6,120.36	
FIFTH THIRD GAMING ACCT.	119.13	
SAVINGS A/C - FIFTH THIRD BK - BEGIN	0.00	
INTEREST EARNED	0.00	
TRANSFER TO SAVINGS FROM CHECKING	0.00	
SERVICE CHARGE	0.00	
TRANSFER TO CK FROM SAVINGS	0.00	
TOTAL 5/3 SAVINGS ACCOUNT	10,162.20	02/28/2013
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT-FIFTH THIRD BK		

SUB TOTAL 02/28/2013 16,401.69
 LESS 1ST QTR TAXES (532.17)

GRAND TOTAL AS OF ----->

02/28/2013 15,869.52

April 2013

ST. STEPHEN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
Mission 4/1 Earth 50 Great Days Begins Apr. 1st	1	2 10:30 AM ALANON Meeting	3	4	5	6																																																																																																									
7 8:45 AM Adult SS Class 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School	8 10:30 AM Brooklawn Auxiliary	9 10:30 AM ALANON Meeting 6:30 PM Finance Meeting 7:30 PM Church Council	10	11 7:00 PM Steward's Meeting	12	13 10:00 AM Neighborhood Block Watch Meeting																																																																																																									
14 8:45 AM Adult SS Class 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School	15	16 10:30 AM ALANON Meeting 7:00 PM Christian Education Meeting	17	18	19	20																																																																																																									
21 8:45 AM Adult SS Class 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Sunday School	22 Earth Day	23 10:30 AM ALANON Meeting	24	25	26	27																																																																																																									
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LOUISVILLE, KY

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor:

Rev. Jim Harper III

SUNDAY SERVICES:

Church School - 8:45 a.m. & After Worship

Divine Worship - 10:00 a.m.

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
OFFICE PHONE: 448-2544 FAX: 448-2526
E-MAIL: ststephe_@bellsouth.net
WEBSITE: www.ststephenucc.net

The BUILDER is published once a month by
St. Stephen UCC for members and friends.

In order to comply with postal regulations, it is here stated
that the enclosures in this newsletter are clearly presenting
material that is an extension of the life and ministry of
St. Stephen United Church of Christ.

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. Jim Harper III
Music Director..... Janet Storm
Vocalist.....
Office Secretary.....Beth A. Tanner

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Jack Bensing.....June McNally.....Ruth Lane

ST. STEPHEN UCC CHURCH COUNCIL

Sam Raderer, President
Jenny Elmore, Vice President
Carol Hoback, Recording Secretary
Don Bauer, Treasurer
Gary Leitner, Financial Secretary
Members at Large:
Kathy Bauer.....Lisa Nolley.....Herb Raderer
Elders: Kathy Bauer....Sam Raderer....Herb Raderer

ISSUE NO. 3
March 20, 2013



St. Stephen United Church of Christ