



# ST. STEPHEN THIS WEEK

## St. Stephen Lutheran Church Newsletter

### LITURGY, LUNCH ... SHOWTIME!

Welcome to the most-fun weekend on St. Stephen's calendar! Here is the schedule for Sunday:

- The liturgy begins at 10 a.m., as usual.
- After the liturgy, everyone sprints to the fellowship hall for a quick, no-frills, not-even-any-decorations lunch. **THIS IS NOT A POTLUCK!** You don't need to bring food. The goal is to fill your tummies just enough to tide you over ... then send you back to the sanctuary for the show of a lifetime. (Thanks in advance to meal organizers/volunteers Ruth Hartung, Susan Warren, Gladys Kane, Sue Williams, Martha Marky, Billie Reardon, Janet Barber and Connie Taylor.)
- Around noon, God willing, the show will begin! Those rumored to be performing include Pastor Mary, the choir, Kirsten Ebbesen (filling in for Katharine Gossman), Karl Barton, Jan Harrison, Gladys Kane, Patrick Kennell, Steve Kunst, Lex Lutheran, Vicki Miller, Woods NeSmith (possibly), Jeff Norcini, Andrea Notley, Karen Olson, Chris & Jen Reece, Cheryl Stuart, Dave Suhrweir and Susan Warren!
- Kevin O'Donnell will be our ace photographer. (Colin Hackley is on assignment elsewhere.)



Of course, there's no show without a talented audience! So please join us. Laughter in our sanctuary is a blessed sound.



Please join us from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturday at St. Stephen for our second Women's March Florida (Tallahassee/Panhandle) mobilization meeting. At this meeting we will:

- 1) Discuss upcoming mobilization events happening in the Tallahassee/Panhandle area (including resistance to ICE attacks on the undocumented)
- 2) Run a small training on how to talk with our political representatives (local, state and national)
- 3) Introduce and report back on what has been done so far at the local, state and national level
- 4) And discuss the state and national events leading into March 8 - International Women's Day

If you want to find out more about leadership in the local area please join us at the meeting.

Please note that overflow parking will be next door at Faith Presbyterian.

Find out more on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/149661018883086/>

# Schedule of Services for Ash Wednesday/Lent/Holy Week

## Ash Wednesday Observance:

**Wednesday, March 1: 7 p.m.**

Imposition of Ashes/ Holy Communion



## Midweek Lenten Worship Services:

**6:15 p.m.** – Soup and Salad

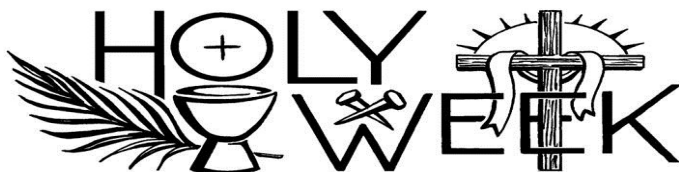
**7:00 p.m.** - Lenten Series on “The Seven Last Words From the Cross,” Scripture Readings, simple Taize chants:

- **Wednesday, March 8:** The First Word: “Forgiveness”
- **Wednesday, March 15:** The Second & Third Words: “Paradise” and “Behold”
- **Wednesday, March 22:** The Fourth Word: “Forsaken”
- **Wednesday, March 29:** The Fifth & Sixth Words: “Thirst” and “Finished”
- **Wednesday, April 5:** The Seventh Word: “Commit”



## Sunday, April 9, 10 a.m.: Passion/Palm Sunday:

- Procession with Palms
- Dramatic Reading of the Passion
- Holy Communion
- Instrumentals
- Darkened sanctuary to symbolize Holy Week’s beginning.



## Thursday, April 13: Maundy Thursday: 7 p.m.:

- Holy Communion
- Foot Washing
- Stripping of the Altar
- Darkened sanctuary

## Good Friday, April 14: 7 p.m.:

- Adoration of the Cross
- Simple Liturgy
- Instrumentals
- Darkened sanctuary to symbolize Holy Week’s beginning.

*There will be no Easter Vigil service but rest assured it will be resurrected next year in 2018! The decision was made prayerfully with Pastor Mary, Katharine Gossman, and the Worship Committee.*

## Easter Sunday, April 16: 9 a.m. - Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt; 10 a.m.:

- Festival worship
- Holy Communion
- Instrumentals



## BEFORE WE PROCEED WITH THE TRANSITION PROCESS...

At its monthly meeting with Pastor Mary this week, the Church Council concluded that it needed more time to prepare before it launched into the official steps in the pastoral transition process. For one thing, it hopes to fill Council vacancies and follow up with a comprehensive leadership training session. It also feels strongly that St. Stephen needs to appoint a financial committee and establish checks and balances in the way we count and spend our money before we can begin work on the synod’s transition checklist. Pastor Mary was in full agreement with Council. Stay tuned, because this effort will involve the whole congregation. Good things are to come!

## CASTLE CHURCH

A new type of worshipping community is brewing in Orlando--both literally and figuratively! Castle Church Brewing Community has been authorized by the Synod Council to go forward. They are combining what is a "regular" word and sacrament ministry with a fully operational brewery. It is hoped that this will be a way to reach people who might not otherwise set foot in a traditional church, but will be able to hear the Gospel message in a new way. You can get weekly updates and a devotion from Pastor Jared Witt by going to their website and signing up.

<https://www.castlechurchbrewing.com/> We are church together!

## ADULT STUDY

Please join us in Adult Education each Sunday at 9 am in the Matthew Room. We are working our way through the Small Catechism. Each week is a new adventure, so if you miss a week, you can still learn something new (or be reminded of something you have long forgotten)! All are welcome!



## ALICE IN WONDERLAND

Young Actors Theatre (609 Glenview Drive) will host the 17th annual Benefit Performance for Lutheran Social Services of North Florida at 7 pm this Sunday. The performance will be "Alice in Wonderland." Join us before the show for refreshments beginning at 6 pm. Tickets are \$20 and available from Janet Barber (321-8875).

## MORE MIDWEEK UPDATES

- Remember: Place any transition questions you have for Pastor Mary in the "A-Ticket, A-Tasket" Transition Basket in the back of the sanctuary.
- Here is a link to E Spirit, the Florida-Bahamas Synod newsletter:  
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## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:

**Kadeem Thomas - 02/24**  
**Lisa Medley - 02/25**  
**Jackie Mustian - 02/25**  
**Katharine Gossman - 02/26**  
**Rob Schiffer - 02/28**

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

#### This Saturday:

**3 p.m.** - Women's March Meeting

#### This Sunday:

**9 a.m.** - Sunday Church School  
Adult study

**10 a.m.** - Worship, Transfiguration of Our Lord

**11:30 a.m.** - Quick lunch followed by Annual Talent Show

#### Wednesday, March 1:

**7 p.m.** - Ash Wednesday Worship, Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion

**8 p.m.** - Choir rehearsal

### COMING UP

**March 8, 6:15 p.m.:** Lenten Supper  
**7 p.m.:** Lenten Midweek Service, The First Word: "Forgiveness"

**March 15, 6:15 p.m.:** Lenten Supper  
**7 pm:** Lenten Midweek Service, The Second & Third Words: "Paradise" and "Behold"

**March 22, 6:15 p.m.:** Lenten Supper  
**7 p.m.:** Lenten Midweek Service, The Fourth Word: "Forsaken"

## SERVING SUNDAY:

**Pastor Mary Nesmith**, Presiding and Preaching; **Cheryl Stuart**, Assisting Minister; **Beth Alexander**, Cup Minister; **Gladys Kane**, Visitation; **Mark Warren**, Walkways; **Gladys Kane**, Greeter; **Aaron Halvorson**, Lector; **Martha Marky & Rita Ford**, Altar Guild; **Kirsten Ebbesen & Rob Schiffer**, Counters; **Jennifer Dritt**, Bread; **Anna Amundson**, Announcements.



If you have news or photos to share, please send them to Lori at [ststephentallahassee@embarqmail.com](mailto:ststephentallahassee@embarqmail.com).

Don't forget our Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/ststephentallahassee>.

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Designed by Lori Zengel, office manager, [ststephentallahassee@embarqmail.com](mailto:ststephentallahassee@embarqmail.com).

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