

St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

320 MOORPARK WAY MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA
CHURCH OFFICE (650) 964-5915 SCHOOL OFFICE (650) 961-2071
Worship service: 10am, Bible Study/Sunday School: 11:15am, Website: www.sslcwest.org

Parameters color: Green (Trinity Season – color of life in nature, symbolizing our life in God's Spiritual Kingdom)
July 25, 2010 Pentecost 9

CLC VBS Series Focus:

"A DAY IN THE COURTS OF THE LORD"

July 25 th	+++	What is Church?
Aug 1 st	+++	Why do we go to church?
Aug 8 th	+++	What happens in Church?
Aug 15 th	+++	What can we do for Church?
Aug 22 nd	+++	How do we pick a church?



OPENING HYMN 467:1-3 (Red Hymnal)

Built on the Rock the Church doth Stand

THE ORDER OF HIS DIVINE SERVICE – (Tan Worship Supplement), Page 12

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ezekiel 18:1-4 In the *Old Testament* Lesson, Ezekiel warns that Jerusalem would be punished for its many sins and accusations against God being unfair. We too often blame others for our troubles, struggles, and sins. But God grants us grace in Christ!

"The word of the LORD came to me again, saying, "What do you mean when you use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying: 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, And the children's teeth are set on edge'? "As I live," says the Lord GOD, "you shall no longer use this proverb in Israel. "Behold, all souls are Mine; The soul of the father As well as the soul of the son is Mine; The soul who sins shall die."

PSALMODY – (Tan Worship Supplement), Page 28
Psalm 51:1-3; 7-9 ~ "Have Mercy Upon Me, O God"

Matthew 15:7-14 In the *Gospel*, Jesus is very critical of the Pharisees because of their self-righteousness. We see coming to worship our Lord is more than an action, it's an attitude.

"Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: 'These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' " When He had called the multitude to Himself, He said to them, "Hear and understand: "Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man." Then His disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?" But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. "Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch."

CONFESSIO OF FAITH, Apostles Creed - Page 15

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as believed/taught by the Apostles.

HYMN 318 (Red Hymnal)

Before Thee, God, Who knowest All

SERMON (NIV) Acts 5:1-11 Now a man named Ananias, together with his wife Sapphira, also sold a piece of property. **2** With his wife's full knowledge he kept back part of the money for himself, but brought the rest and put it at the apostles' feet. **3** Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? **4** Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God." **5** When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died. And great fear seized all who heard what had happened. **6** Then the young men came forward, wrapped up his body, and carried him out and buried him.

7 About three hours later his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. **8** Peter asked her, "Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?" "Yes," she said, "that is the price." **9** Peter said to her, "How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also." **10** At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband. **11** Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events.



Theme: Church: "A Gathering of Believers"

1. An example "taken" from the gathering
2. Lessons learned by the believers

HYMN 467:4-7 (Red Hymnal)

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AN OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS TO THE LORD - 2 Corinthians 9:7 -

"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."

SPECIAL PRAYERS - GENERAL PRAYER - LORD'S PRAYER - BENEDICTIO

CLOSING HYMN 2:1, 2, 7 (Red Hymnal)

To Thy Temple I Repair

NEWS and NOTES

Welcome visitors! We're very happy that you're here today and hope you come again!

Please sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have questions about our church/school just ask!

- Today: Refreshments in classroom/Brief council meeting/Continuation of our study of Genesis.
- A tryout SWITCH: Tues Morning Bible Class to Wed evenings from 6:30-7:30pm studying the book of Acts. Come!
- Vacation Bible School begins tomorrow! There is still room for more kids! -7pm teachers setup meeting tonight!
- Church work days coming up... We are repainting the church! July 31st and August 7th starting at 9am.
- Call News Prince of Peace Lutheran, Loveland Co, has called the Rev. Michael Eichstadt, Hales Corners WI. <> Word was recently received that, upon the passing of Pastor E.E. Essien, Pastor Patrick Udo has been elected as

the new president of the NCLC. Your prayers are requested on behalf of Pastor Udo and the Nigeria-CLC. <>
Bethel Lutheran, Spring TX, has called the Rev. Roland H. Gurgel, Weslaco TX.

Next week scriptures lessons: *(VBS Series) Psalm 84, Numbers 6, Luke 2, Hebrews 10*