

# THE SPIRIT OF ST. STEPHENS

## MARCH 5, 2010

**CHAPEL:** Chapel theme this year is, “Christ Be My Leader...” Chapel worship next Wednesday (3/10) will be led by Mr. Guelzow. The emphasis for this worship is “...For a Life of Service.” The Bible Reading is Philippians 2:3-8; the Text is II Corinthians 4:5. We invite all our parents, relatives, & friends to join us in worship at 8:30 am.

**CHAPEL OFFERINGS:** Our chapel offerings for the “Hearts for Jesus” project of building a school in Flahn Town Village, Liberia, totaled \$498.83. Thanks to everyone for your support of this project. Continue to pray to God asking Him to bless this gift and the efforts of everyone in helping to build a school for the children of Flahn Town, Liberia.

\*\*\* For our chapel offerings during this month of March, we are asking our students to bring in food for the Back Pack Ministry here at St. Stephens Lutheran Church. This mission project helps needy children right here in Catawba County. Each week, a group of volunteers pack food in a back pack that these needy children can take home on Fridays so they will have food to eat over the weekend. We are asking our students to bring in any of the following items: **Main meal** – spaghetti sauce (no glass jars), spaghetti noodles, canned meats, Vienna Sausage, canned fruits & vegetables, canned soups; **Breakfast** – cereal bars, individual & family size cereal boxes, pop tarts; **Snack** – pudding cups, fruit or applesauce cups, small jars of peanut butter, crackers.

**LENTEN SERVICES:** The theme for our Lenten services here at St. Stephens Lutheran Church is “The Sign of Jonah”. The Lenten services explore the meaning of “The Sign of Jonah” as we follow Jonah on his journey...and Jesus on His way to the cross. Next week’s (3/10) theme is, “Praying From the Belly of the Great Big Fish”. Our SSLS families are invited to join us in worship each Wednesday at 10:30 am or 7:00 pm.

**GRADES 1-6** will sing their special Christmas program anthem, “Go Light Your World”, this Sunday (3/7) at the 10:30 am service. This special presentation will conclude our Lutheran Schools Week celebration. Parents – please have your child at the church by 10:15 am.

**THE SENIOR YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH THANKS** all those who supported the National Youth Gathering participants by coming out to Bo’s Family Fun Center this past Sunday evening. Children, youth, and adults all enjoyed bowling, laser tag, spin-zone, and arcade games. Look for another fun night to happen, possibly in May, for an end of school year party!

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**BATTLE OF THE BOOKS:** Our Battle of the Books team will travel to Asheville this coming Wednesday (3/10) for the Independent School competition. We wish them a safe trip and good luck in the competition. They have been working really hard to get ready for this competition.

**SNOW MAKE-UP DAYS:** Reminder – school will be in session on Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> to make up a missed day of school due to snow. The missed day on February 5<sup>th</sup> will be made up on Thursday, June 10.

**2010-2011 REGISTRATION FEE:** Reminder - the 2010-2011 registration fee is due by March 31<sup>st</sup> after which a late fee will be added. The first tuition for the 2010-2011 school year will be due in June.

**SIXTH GRADE CLASS TRIP:** Our Sixth Grade class, along with Mrs. Teague, Dr. Murray, and a host of parents will be traveling to Washington, DC, next week, March 15-18. There will be a Parent Meeting tonight (3/8) at 7:00 pm in the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade classroom. We pray that God bless you with a safe and wonderful trip.

**FIRE & SAFETY BOWL:** Our first Fire & Safety Quiz Bowl team will be in competition this coming Thursday (3/11) at Tri City Baptist School at 6:00 pm. Members of the team, Adasyn Neuwirth, Captain, Moss Rerkpattanapipat, Emma Roseman, Pammy Fish, and Daniel Highland, along with their coach, Mrs. Teague, have been working hard for the past six weeks getting ready for the competition. Good luck, team!

**SPRING PICTURES:** On Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, Carolina Photography will be here to make “spring” pictures. A proof will be sent home about two weeks later after the pictures are taken. Various packages will be offered, but purchasing packages will be optional.

We will also make “spring” sports pictures – softball, baseball, tennis, golf. Team plus individual pictures will be made. An information sheet on packages (including prices) will be sent home prior to pictures being made. You will need to pay for sports pictures up front.

**SCIENCE CAMP COMING TO SSLS THIS SUMMER:** In partnership with Invent Now Kids, SSLS is please to offer the nationally-acclaimed, weeklong Camp Invention program to children entering grades 1 through 6. This exciting summer day experience will take place the week of June 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am – 3:30 pm. Information is available in the school office. Also, check your emails for information coming out soon! This is a great opportunity for our students that reinforces and supplements school year learning through inquiry-based activities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). You can also contact Mrs. Butler if you have questions.

**SUMMER CAMPS HERE AT SSLS:** Information is now available in the school office for our Preschool and K-6 summer camp programs here at SSLS. Both camps will start June 14<sup>th</sup>. Enroll now and guarantee your spot before these camps are opened up to the public.

**YEARBOOK SALES:** We still can take your order for the school’s annual yearbook. Price is \$25.00. Many students have already pre-ordered the yearbook. A copy of the yearbook cover is located on the school office door and in each classroom. It’s going to be a great yearbook and we’re sure you will want to reserve your copy. It features all classes - Preschool 3 through Grade 8 - and is a great way to keep memories of this school year. Only a limited number of yearbooks will be ordered this year so reserve yours soon! Price goes up to \$30.00 in a few weeks!

**LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK:** What a great week we’ve had celebrating Lutheran Schools Week along with many other Lutheran schools all across America! We especially thank all the grandparents/special friends who came for “Grandparents Day” on Friday. It was a huge success. Many fine compliments regarding our school, faculty and staff, were expressed by the grandparents. It’s so great to see the grandparents with their grandchildren! We also thank Mr. Skinner for all his hard work in planning and carrying out the program. We thank Diane, Vanessa, and Kim for their work in the kitchen and the great refreshments. We thank Mrs. Barbee for her work on the Book Fair; it was a big success! We thank Mrs. Dawn Tashjian and her group for their work on the Art Fair. It was a great display. We thank all our photographers for taking the time to take pictures of our families. And to all the parents who came and helped out in so many ways, our sincerest thanks! God has truly blessed SSLS with great students, teachers, parents, grandparents/special friends!

**LUTHERAN REGIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT:** What a great trip our Varsity boys and girls’ basketball teams, cheerleaders, managers, coaches & staff, and parents had to New Orleans, LA for the annual Lutheran Regional Basketball Tournament. We are very proud to announce again that SSLS received the Sportsmanship Award, which is the top award to receive at this tournament because it revolves around everything about the tournament. We also congratulate the Varsity Boys for winning the tournament! The Varsity Girls came in 4<sup>th</sup> Place and our Cheerleaders came in 3<sup>rd</sup> Place.

Once again, our athletes received many compliments on their behavior, manners, and being so nice to everyone. Just for instance: on the way down to New Orleans, we stopped at a Rest Area and right beside it was the Welcome Center to the Stennis Space Center (which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest space center in the US!). Since we were making such good time, we asked about a tour. They put a tour director on our bus and we rode all over the Space Center while she gave us information. The last stop on this tour is their museum and when she got off the bus, she was so complimentary on how well the group was so attentive and the questions they asked. She couldn’t believe how long they had been on the bus – and yet they were super! You can certainly be proud of all these find young men and women and how well they represented SSLS!

We thank God very much for watching over this group and granting them a safe and wonderful trip. And we thank our Athletic Director, Gary Pruitt, for all he did for the group during the weekend. It was an awesome trip for all those who went!

**FAMILY VALENTINE DANCE:** A big, big thank you to the Valentine Dance Committee, through the LPTL Executive Board, for the great evening of fun, food, and fellowship. It was a great night with a lot of our families coming out to “dance the night away”! The food, the refreshments, the decorations were all great! Mr. Jason Stephens, former teacher and coach here at SSLS, was the DJ and he did a great job! It was a beautiful night with lots of “excitement in the air”. (P.S. – the Middle School Dance held after the Family Dance was also a big success!) And...the winning class who sold the most tickets for the dance was **THIRD GRADE!** They will receive a slushy party and Mrs. McNeely will receive \$100 for classroom supplies. Congratulations to the Third Grade!!! The competition between the classes was very close with the Third Graders winning over the Kindergarten class by only 1%. Again, thanks to everyone who made this event a huge success!

**NEWS ABOUT FORMER GRADUATES OF SSLS:** We have received the following information on some of our graduates ---

\*\*\* The following made the Dean’s List at East Carolina University – Abby Bools, Kady Hurst, Emily Pruitt. Also making the Honor Roll at East Carolina was Katie Hoyle. Congratulations to all of you!

\*\*\* Jackie Lomboy made front page news on the Hickory Daily Record’s sports page by leading the Hickory High School Girls’ soccer team to a 10-0 victory over Newton Conover. Jackie scored five of those goals in a 12 minute span and also added an assist later in the game. Way to go, Jackie!

\*\*\* Adam Millsaps was sworn in as a practicing attorney at the Catawba County Courthouse and will be practicing general law in the greater Hickory area. Great job, Adam!

**Not a Graduate, but...did you see** Courtney Page’s (Gr. 4) father, Staff Sgt. Eric Page, picture recently in the Hickory Daily Record. He is presenting a U.S. flag that flew over his forward operations base in Iraq to Catawba County Sheriff L. David Huffman. He has just returned home from his third deployment to Iraq. Eric – we are so proud of you and the service you give to our country! God’s blessings be with you always!

**WARRIOR WALK OF FAME:** One of our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students, Taylor Heavner, is a Life Scout and is currently working on his Eagle Project. His project is creating a brick patio located in front of the new concession stand on the Greenfield. He is asking for our help. For a \$25 donation, you can have a brick engraved. He would like to sell enough engraved bricks to create a 13’X39’ patio. Forms are available in the school office in you cannot locate the one sent home. Let’s help Taylor create a nice place for our school and church families to sit and enjoy refreshments while watching the many athletic and special activities that are held on our Greenfield. Deadline to order your personalized brick is March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**CAMP LINN HAVEN BROCHURES** are available in the school office. Camp Linn Haven is a Christian summer camp affiliated with the Southeastern District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Many of our students enjoy time at Camp Linn Haven each summer. You will want to get your reservation in early; teen and pre-teen weeks fill up fast!

**ATHLETICS:** Once again, we congratulate our Varsity Basketball players and Cheerleaders for the great job they did representing SSLS in New Orleans. The students and “fans” were great as they interacted with all the players, cheerleaders, and parents from the other schools. This is evident in the fact that we won the Sportsmanship Trophy for the second year in a row. This is the trophy everyone wants to win!

We would also like to congratulate the following students who were honored by being placed on the All Tournament teams ---

Girls’ All Tournament Team – Gabrielle Cooper

Boys’ All Tournament Team – Daniel Holchin, also named MVP of the Tournament  
Dillon Beaver

Cheerleaders All Tournament Squad – Ashtyn Neuwirth

Great job, everyone! We are proud of all of you! It was a great trip and one we will remember fondly!

\*\*\* Parents of Players & Cheerleaders: if you would like to order a DVD of the tournament pictures, please contact Gary Pruitt or the school office immediately. The number of orders received will determine the price, but we are anticipating it to be around \$5.00-\$10.00. If you would like to view some of the action shots, you can go to [www.timalex.photorelect.com](http://www.timalex.photorelect.com).

**Spring Sports:** And now, we move on to our spring sports – baseball, softball, golf, and tennis! Our baseball and softball teams have already had opening games. They played Community School of Davidson with our baseball team losing here on our home field, and the girls also losing on CSD’s field. They were both close games though, and our teams have not had too much practice time yet. Golf and tennis matches start this week. Check the schedule below and come out to support our Warriors!

**Next Week’s Schedule:**

- Monday, March 8 – Softball Practice, 3:15-4:30
  - Baseball Practice, 4:30-5:45
- Tuesday, March 9 – Softball Team vs. Lincoln Charter (HOME) 4:00 pm
  - Baseball Team vs. Lincoln Charter (Away) 4:00 pm
  - Golf Practice at Catawba Springs
- Tuesday, March 11 – Golf Match with Lincoln Charter at Catawba Springs, 4:00 pm
  - Softball Team vs. ARMS (HOME) 4:00 pm
  - Baseball Team vs. ARMS (Away) 4:00 pm
- Friday, March 12 – Tennis Match with Community School of Davidson (at Lake Hickory Country Club) 4:00

**Varsity & JV Basketball Players:** If you have not returned your uniforms (all pieces including warm-ups), then do so immediately. Place your “clean” uniform in a bag with your name enclosed and return the bag to the school office.

**Intramural Basketball:** The intramural basketball season has come to an end for the season. A BIG thank you to the players, coaches, and parents for a great season. The season will probably be best remembered for the three straight weekends of snow and cancellation of games. The monies taken up during half-time of the games will aid earthquake victims in Haiti and Chili. A check for \$470 will be sent to LCMS World Relief & Human Care. Thank you for your support. (SIGNED) Jadi Gurganious

**Girls On The Run:** Registration is now taking place for the spring session of Girls On the Run. Girls On the Run is a nonprofit after school program that uses the power of running to help girls prepare for a lifetime of self respect and healthy living. Sessions will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school for one hour; sessions start week of March 16<sup>th</sup>.

