

THE TORCH

August 2026

Pastors' office phone at
St. Luke's 908-689-1976

Karol Van Wulfen, Pastor
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A Note from Pastor Karol

In the midst of this heat, our gardens are growing. Take time to enjoy the beauty of God's creation!

A special word of thanks goes to everyone who has spent time caring for our church building and grounds. Whether pulling weeds, cleaning, repairing, or scheduling contractors, your work helps keep God's house welcoming and beautiful. Your willingness to give your time and talents is a generous gift of stewardship and service. A special word of thanks for the donation given to cover two new air conditioners for the office and meeting room downstairs – and to Kevin and Heidi Cyphers who spent hours scrubbing the white fence at the entrance to our parking lot and installing the new a/c units during one of our heat waves!

As the Apostle Paul reminds us, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord" (Colossians 3:23, *NIV*). Every act of service, large or small, is a blessing to our congregation and a witness to God's love in action.

Grace and peace to all,

Pastor Karol Van Wulfen

Parish News

Summer Worship Time – Please note during the summer we have moved to a 10:30am worship time in an attempt to beat the heat. We continue this worship time through August 30th.

Choir Director – While we are thankful for Kelly's leadership of the choir for the past year, we are still looking for a new Choir Director. If you have any leads on someone with a gift for directing choirs, please share the idea with us at:

stewartsvillelutheran@gmail.com.

Altar Flowers - We are taking a break from fresh flowers over the summer but are looking for flower sponsors for October, November and December. The cost is \$40 per Sunday. If you wish to sponsor a Sunday or a month of Sundays please drop a note in the mail or email Tara, our church secretary at stewartsvillelutheran@gmail.com.

Opportunities to Share and Care

Backpacks & School Supplies – It's time to think about going back to school! Working together, we can encourage students in their learning by starting their year with good supplies. Walmart, Target and other area stores are already beginning their back to school sales. We are, again, collecting backpacks and school supplies for Catholic Charities to distribute to students in need of assistance. The items needed include:

Pencils	Pens
Colored pencils	Highlighters
Erasers	Notebooks
Loose leaf binders & paper	Crayons
Markers	Glue sticks
Construction Paper	Backpacks
Pencil sharpeners	Scissors

Donated items may be left in the box in the Narthex.

All items must be donated by August 9th.

Upcoming Events

Council Meeting – Our next council meeting will be held August 9th after worship.

Bible Study – During the heat of summer, we take a break from gathering for Bible study. Please consider choosing one of the 4 gospels and reading through it on your own this summer!

175th Anniversary – Please mark your calendars for our special worship and dinner on November 1, 2026. Please plan to join us for a special service of celebration that morning.

Member Care

Below is the list of members who are (mostly) shut in and can use some cheer:

Mrs. Virginia Geffert	Pat Piggot
402 Sunset Ave	123 Buttonwood
Bangor, PA 18013	Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

We care about you! Do you need assistance in some way? Perhaps your church family could be of help! Send us an email at stewartsvillelutheran@gmail.com or by mail to PO Box 86, Stewartsville, NJ 08886.

You are invited!
Please invite others to join us:
help us to spread the word about our
In person Worship at 10:30am
and online at our website:
www.stewartsvillelutheran.org