

ST. STEPHEN'S NEWS
Today Sunday, October 17, 2021
Pentecost 21– Proper 24

WELCOME!

If you are worshipping at St. Stephen's for the first time today, you are welcome to share in the Holy Communion. Please fill out a "Visitor" card at one of the Greeters tables and/or the guest book on the podium before you leave and get a welcome packet.

COMMUNION

If you are in need of a gluten free wafer during Communion please let an usher know before the offertory or let one of the persons serving the host know. If you have a mobility problem, please let an usher know before the service begins and communion will be brought to you.

LOOKING FORWARD



Our Pledge Campaign has begun. During this very important time, our thoughts are focused on how God calls us to love and to share of the blessings we have been given.

My friends, there is work to be done. Work that is core to both our Christian identity. Baptismal vows and philosophy of stewardship. Stewardship is the balm that allows our community of faith to tend to a host of needs including loneliness, inequity, and need in our world.

By now you should have received your pledge campaign package either by email or by regular mail, including your pledge card and Gratitude card. If you have not, please reach out to Tracy Stapp in the church office.

Last Sunday, October 10th, several parishioners joined with Rev. Christopher, the members of the Stewardship Committee and our Vestry to discuss the Pledge Campaign goals, materials and process. The meeting was recorded and is posted on the St. Stephen's website.

If you were unavailable to attend on October 10th, another meeting will take place in the near future.

We urge you to review the pledge campaign materials along with the recording. If you have any questions, concerns or need additional information, please reach out to a Vestry member (a VPOD is available every Sunday) and/or to Rev. Christopher.

And please, after prayerful consideration, submit your commitment of support for the work of the St. Stephen's community by completing your pledge card and submitting it online, by mail or placing in the offertory plate on Sunday.

James 1:17 "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights"

Stewardship Committee; Cathy Gero (chair), Michael Branda, Robert Gregor, Richard Holdredge, Kathleen Jensen



CHRISTMAS GREENS FOR SALE

The Altar Guild is selling Sherwood Forest Farms Christmas Greens again this year. These wreaths,

garlands, and centerpieces come from Washington State and will arrive fresh and ready for use the week after Thanksgiving. In addition, there are items that you can order to be delivered directly to your recipient.

Orders may be placed through Noon on November 7th or by calling the Church Office.

Order in person in Spurling Hall on Sundays or order by filling out this Google Form <https://forms.gle/zW5rK1ykjWEDdGRt9>

The Anti-Racism Coalition (ARC) invites you to a

"FIRESIDE CHAT" –

Ways to Teach & Talk to Kids About Race!

Sunday, Oct. 24th at 6:30pm at St. Stephen's.

"Kids"? Think ... grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and, of course, your own children.

You'll hear personal stories & experiences on how racism affects kids, plus strategies and resources on dealing with racism. You'll learn about the crucial role of arts and music in exploring racism.



It's our "job" – all of us; the entire community – to help raise thoughtful, informed, action-oriented youth! Join our open conversation. Bring your own picnic dinner & drinks. Snacks will be available. For more information, please contact Mary Jo Higginbotham at: maryjohigg@gmail.com.



**Food
Collection**

**Sat., Oct. 30th, 9 –
11:00am St.
Stephen's Parking
Lot**

CRITICAL NEEDS:

- **Socks** – All sizes for men & Women
- **Underwear** – All sizes for men & women

Needed FOOD ITEMS:

- Peanut Butter (small & large sizes)
- Applesauce, Fruit & Pudding Cups
- Canned Tuna & Vienna Sausage (pull-top)
- Canned vegetables (pull-top)
- Canned Ravioli (pull-top)
- Canned Soup (pull-top)

URGENT NON-FOOD ITEMS:

- **Laundry Detergent** - pods & liquid
- Grocery Gift Cards (any amount/any store)
- **Women's Tampons & Pads**
- Household Cleaners

Bring Recyclable "CRV" glass, plastic, aluminum cans, bottles, jugs and empty wine bottles!

Please save Coke bottle caps & pull tabs from soda aluminum cans!

Thanks!



The Children Need Your Help!

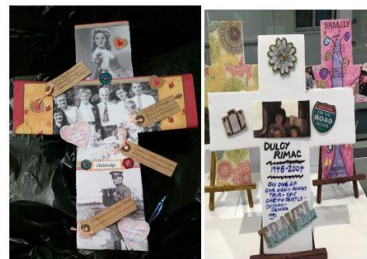
We are in desperate need of adults to help with our

Sunday school programs. The LA diocese requires that at least 2 adults be present when working with children at church. I am sorry to say that if we can't meet that requirement on a Sunday then we cannot have Sunday school that day. We have children who want to attend, so I ask that everyone take time to pray and consider giving some of your Sundays to help us. Every adult member has the ability to help. You might feel that you are not physically able to help with children, or you might feel that you do not relate well with children, but by merely sitting and being with us, you are making Sunday school possible.

We have need for your presence either during the 10:00 Sunday service for Sunday School or after the 10:00 service for Pathfinders. All volunteers must wear masks. We will meet outdoors whenever possible, so be prepared to dress appropriately.

We also have desperate need for those who are able to give more. We need volunteers who are willing to assist regularly in a Sunday school classroom and volunteers who are willing to lead a Sunday school classroom, either during the 10:00 service with Godly Play or after the 10:00 service using a more traditional curriculum with our new Pathfinders group.

Please consider how you can best help with our Children's Ministry. I truly believe that you will benefit as much from a morning with us, as we will from you. You can sign-up at this link [Children's Ministry Volunteers](#) Come learn with us, get to know us, and play with us!



The Daughters of the King (DOK) will help St. Stephen's commemorate "All Saints' Day" on Sunday, Nov. 7th, with handmade collage crosses representing the saints in our lives.

Everyone is invited to make a collage cross. Blank crosses are available in the parish hall and church office (weekdays only). All crosses previously displayed in past years will be used this year. Finished crosses should be brought to the church office **before Nov. 4th**. Please call the office first to be sure Tracy is available.

To create your cross, use the name and picture of your "saint" – a deceased loved one – using pictures of their home or something that suggests their work, hobbies or travels. In addition to words and phrases, consider using stickers or cutouts to convey a message, perhaps ribbon, flowers, or small mementos are good too.

Remember your "**Accidental Saints**" too! Prayerfully consider those people who came into your life when you needed them most; perhaps a mentor, a dear friend; or someone who supported you in a time of crisis. This is your chance to take the opportunity to thank God for bringing that special person into your life.

We hope you will join us in remembering those you love. This is our reminder of the great cloud of witnesses always surrounding and supporting us. If you have questions, please contact Mary Jo at maryjohigg@gmail.com.



Welcome Back Sunday School!

Kids in kindergarten through 5th grade are welcome every Sunday at

10:00am in the courtyard for Godly Play. Each Sunday, we will hear a Godly Play story followed by a fun craft or activity, returning to our parents during the announcements before Eucharist. We will meet outside whenever possible, so please be sure that everyone is dressed appropriately for the cool mornings which warm up quickly. Also make sure that everyone has their mask. They will not be required to wear one while outside if they are staying physically-distanced, but there will be times when we need to meet inside.

New Pathfinders Program

Join our new Pathfinders Program



Kids in 2nd-4th grade can also participate in Pathfinders after the 10:00 Sunday service. Every Sunday at

11:45am we will be playing games and doing hands-on activities while we explore the Bible. It will meet on the same times and days as the youth group YESS.

If you have any questions about either of these programs or about Children's Ministry in general, please contact Julia Nelson at childrensministry@st-stephens.org



If you are able to continue to supporting the mission and ministry of St. Stephen's, you can pay your pledge or make a new or recurring donation online here st-stephens.org/giving. As you may have heard, you can now also text your donation by texting the word GIVE to 661.228.8909 and following the prompts. Click here for an easy How to Use Text Giving guide. We are deeply grateful for your commitment and support, especially right now.

St. Stephen's Prayer List

On-Going Needs: Joanne E., Mary Lou C., Dorcas

Current Needs: Susan B., Byron, Wilson B., Tom J., Bree, Barbara G., Silvio., Sue S., Pat H., Dennis, Carol M., Miriam, Liam and parents, Jesse, Linda S., Jim and Terri S, Bill and Pat T., Charlie H, Armand S. and family, Laura F., Barbara O., Lucy B., Don R., Jake T., Wayne K., Lauren and children, Jane, Mary Anne D., Felica, Nikolas, Rebecca, Tom, Louise D, Jane, Mary Anne D., Felica, Nikolas, Tom, Louise D, April F., Claudia A., Lucia G., Lily, Marilyn F. Lucia E., Eric L., **Steve B., Ruth, Shannon S., Rev. Mark Hallahan, Carolyn P.**

Rest in Peace: Gretta Buntrock, Angela, Geneva Sperow, **Louise Davies**

If you would like to have prayers for yourself or someone else, please email Peggy Stabile at pstable@pegasus2.net or call the church office at 661.259.7307. Please be aware that your prayer request content will be shared with the members of the prayer chain. If you wish for Peggy to hold your prayer request in confidence, please clarify that in your submission. Prayer requests remain active for 4 weeks and must be renewed thru Peggy or the office to be on the list again.

St. Stephen's Week		October 17, 2021 to October 24, 2021	
TODAY'S SERVICE		7:45 & 10:00am	
SUNDAY 10/17			
7:45am		Holy Eucharist	
10:00am		Holy Eucharist (will also stream via Facebook Live) - Jay Clark	
10:00am		Sunday School / Lounge	
11:30am		Coffee hour	
11:45am		YESS / Youth Room in Spurling Hall	
11:45am		Pathfinders / Lounge	
MONDAY 10/18			
TUESDAY 10/19			
6:00pm		Finance Committee meeting / Zoom	
WED. 10/20			
7:00am		Holy Eucharist / Chapel	
9:30am		Circle of Gratitude via Zoom	
11:00am		Book Study Group via Zoom	
THURS. 10/21			
FRIDAY 10/22			
SAT. 10/23			
NEXT SUNDAY 10/24			
7:45am		Holy Eucharist	
10:00am		Holy Eucharist (will also stream via Facebook Live) - Jen Aston	
10:00am		Sunday School / Lounge	
11:30am		Coffee hour	
11:45am		YESS / Youth Room in Spurling Hall	
11:45am		Pathfinders / Lounge	
6:30pm		ARC Fireside Chat / Courtyard	