



THE BEACON

The bi-monthly newsletter of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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St. Stephen's Church

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THE CLERGY CORNER

Sabbatical Reflections

— Fr. Jesse Abell—

Over the past several months, I was blessed to have a sabbatical time for rest, reflection, and renewal. It has been a time filled with amazing experiences and wonderful memories. I hope the parish's own renewal program enriched your spiritual life and sense of community as well.

On Saturday, August 18, we gathered for a barbeque to celebrate the close of the sabbatical time and to share photos and stories about what we have experienced together since the first part of April.

It is hard to know how to begin sharing; perhaps the main highlights of each segment of the journey would be a starting point. You may remember that my sabbatical theme was "telling the story" (cf. Ps. 107:2), with four components: (1) The Sacred Story, (2) The Story of Christendom, (3) The Anglican Story, and (4) My Own Story.

Starting with the Sacred Story component, I can report that I had a truly amazing time in the Holy Land. I came to know the Old City of Jerusalem well. Some of my most moving moments came from the numerous visits I was able to make to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, covering the areas where Jesus



was executed and buried. This trip was even more fascinating after following National Geographic's coverage of the extensive restoration work at Jesus' tomb. If you had told me in 2014 that I would end up visiting Jerusalem not once but twice in the next five years and spending extended time there, I'm not sure I would have believed it. Back then it seemed like such an out-of-reach adventure. I'm forever grateful that Marge Carlson, our parish secretary at the time and a dear friend, challenged me to do

it. Perhaps it's fitting, then, that I received news of her passing while in Jerusalem—a place she loved so deeply—and I was able to light a candle in her memory in the Holy Sepulchre (see the photo immediately below). *Thank you and God bless you, Marge.*

In Italy, we had a wonderful family holiday. I was especially moved to be able to visit



Assisi, the hometown of St. Francis and St. Clare. It no doubt looks much different than it did back in the 13th Century, but it was still moving. To be able to visit St. Francis' tomb was an inspiring experience. To pray before the same crucifix that God used to beckon him in a vision to "rebuild" the Church was awe-inspiring. And I was speechless to see the displays of Francis's own shoes and tunics....carefully preserved with all their patches to this day.

I had to make a change of plans for my study of the Anglican Story due to Allison's pregnancy with our second son, but it did give me the motivation to do something I had never gotten around to: visiting the Episcopal Church's headquarters in New York City. There I learned about some of the amazing ministries that go on both domestically with migrants and internationally.

Finally, I was blessed to wrap up my sabbatical with a trip with my brothers to St. Mary's County, Maryland where we visited the Episcopal parishes where our forebears worshipped. It was a lot of fun!



Again, thank you all!
Fr. Jesse +

Vestry Notes

July Vestry meeting was held on Sunday, July 22, 2018.

- The dishwasher in the kitchen has now been repaired. This will make life easier for coffee hour servers, and for other big parish functions. The dishwasher is also a necessary item for maintaining our good standing with the town Health Department. The cost of this unexpected repair was \$1,182, which was not in our budget, and will add to our deficit.
- The Treasurer reported that our deficit for the first half of the year is approximately \$8,600. Our pledge income has fallen \$3,300 behind expectations. As a result our checking account balance of approximately \$10,000 is lower than we would like. This is making cash flow management challenging. The Vestry will continue to monitor this situation closely.
- A tree behind the church is in dangerous condition and could fall, damaging the building. It will be removed by the end of the month.
- The Vestry is beginning to consider making grant applications to the Diocese for the 2019 grant program. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for innovative projects that meet certain criteria. The Vestry would welcome input and ideas for suitable projects from parishioners.
- The Vestry is considering forming a pastoral care team to strengthen our pastoral awareness within the parish. This group would focus on the wellbeing of our parish community, and supporting parishioners in times of need or distress.

A reminder that all vestry meetings are open to the public.



Parish News in Review



COMMUNITY HARVEST PROJECT

Earlier this year, the Lent group decided they wanted to volunteer at the Community Harvest Project. On July 21, a work party of 11 volunteers from St. Stephen's went to the farm in Grafton. We worked in the hot summer sun harvesting zucchini and okra, picking 4 lbs. of okra and 100 lbs. of zucchini. We then marched across the farm to the sweet potatoes where we carefully weeded 14 rows of young plants. We then tackled the weeds around pepper plants. Our harvesting efforts will provide over 400 servings of produce to the food insecure in Worcester county. Connecting with the sabbatical experience, we were serving people, serving God.



PARISH QUIET DAY

The Parish Quiet Day on July 14 provided parishioners with an opportunity to break away from the busy-ness of life and join others in a day of quiet reflection. We began in the chapel where we centered our minds and hearts in prayer and then moved outside to walk the labyrinth, quietly centering on our own reflections and prayers. From there we moved inside and did some 'spiritual coloring' while we silently prayed. Then we moved into the sanctuary to focus on our own individual spiritual journeys and reflect on how we came to be where we are today. Our day ended in prayer, and we returned home, refreshed and grateful for this respite from our normal daily routines.



OUR FATHER'S TABLE

Thank you to those who purchased food for Our Father's Table in July. Hot dogs are a favorite! The potato salad was terrific. Thanks to Allison Abell and Michele Mongeon. Thanks to the faithful serving and clean-up crew. As a parish, we are so fortunate and you are wonderful to be so giving to those that find themselves in situations other than what they would choose. Thank you! Our next time to serve is October 29 and we will serve mac and cheese.



FOUNDER'S DAY

Founders' Day is a celebration of our parish from its earliest days to the present. Our archives contain photos, articles and books showing the building of our current parish, the rebuilding of our organ, as well as the many suppers, fairs, blessings of the pets attended by our wonderful parishioners.

This year was very special; while Fr. Jesse was on his sabbatical, our supply clergy was our first rector, Rev David Knight and his wife Jeannie. Rev. Knight was the vicar when St. Stephens became a parish. A pot luck breakfast gave the current congregation a chance to meet Rev Knight and those of us who were here when he became rector a chance to talk about old times.



Prayerful Notes

- Anne Deysher -



*"Every adventure
we undertake
leaves us with
more soul,
more heart
than we ever
had before"*

Joan Chittister – International Interfaith Prayer Team

Having just returned from Greece, the above poem resonates with me. While the traveling itself was arduous, visiting Greece was an extraordinary adventure for Bob and me. We were fortunate to be invited to Greece by Bob's Greek-American boss Angelo who owns a home there.

We saw and did the typical touristy things in Athens, where our rooftop hotel dining room overlooked Zeus's Temple and the Parthenon atop the Acropolis. The historic and natural sights awed us as we toured the city, hiked up the Acropolis (after visiting its museum full of artifacts and detailed information about the Parthenon), discovered delicious Greek restaurants and did some souvenir shopping.

We spent a day on a ferry visiting three of the many Greek islands, each with its own character and distinct beauty. It was fascinating spending the day in company of 200 travelers from all over the world speaking many languages. We were struck that despite our differences in language and culture, we are far more alike than different.

Most of our vacation was spent with two other couples shepherded by Bob's boss, who enabled us to experience things that most visitors don't get to. This privilege reminded me of the poem above. On our way south to the Peloponnese we visited an ancient Greek theater built into the hillside with near perfect acoustics. Talk about expanding one's soul! Bob mentioned that I sing, and at Angelo's insistence, I mustered up the courage to sing the Doxology in front of tourists and the companions I had met hours before. Sure enough, they could hear me from the very top seats.

Angelo took us to his favorite beach with its crystal clear, vivid blue/aqua waters. We sat under his favorite

tree and ate watermelon cooled in an ocean spring. Then, in our bathing suits and water shoes, we tromped through his rugged fields, picking almonds and figs. We met his friends and relatives (he's 'related' to just about everyone) at little town cafes, and dined at his friends' restaurants where we were invariably treated to sumptuous spreads of delicious Greek foods.

We spent one day on an island at one of the most beautiful beaches in Europe enjoying its dazzling waters with a bevy of yachts anchored yards offshore. Another day we hiked up the 'Castle' at Monemvasia across the causeway from our hotel. Given his sore ankle, Bob wisely opted to stay in the picturesque town at the base and drink coffee while waiting for us to summit and return. There was an ancient church and fortress high on the hills with the most breathtaking views.

Church is central to life in Greece. Every town is built around its beautifully maintained stone church, and there are charming dollhouse sized churches mounted everywhere along the roadsides. Angelo told us the shrines are usually erected to honor or commemorate a loved one.

Our final night was spent at a Greek festival in honor of St. Nikolas with live music, dancing, singing and revelry lasting into the wee hours of the morning. Our hearts and souls were full with appreciation for the wonders we experienced on our Greek adventure.



Celebrations

September Birthdays

- 1 - Olivia Giorlandino
Charlotte Dube
- 2 - Peggy Laneri
- 3 - Sylvia Doran
Diana Michel
- 8 - David Fish
James Johnson
Lorraine Tyner
- 11 - Michael Calderone
Chase Boyer
- 13 - Arthur Melhuish
- 15 - Audrey Davis
- 16 - Gretchen Pruden
- 19 - Nancy Carlson
- 20 - Marcia Tepper
- 21 - Charles Davis
Frank Stille
- 22 - Simon Fricker
- 24 - Alfred Angelici
Beverly Boyer
- 26 - Ginny Umiker
- 27 - Joseph Barner
- 28 - Jessica Calderone
Peter Kite
- 29 - Jonathan Ashton
Ted Brady

September Anniversaries

- 4 - Steven & Kelly Barner
- 10 - Claud & Rebecca Davis
- 12 - David & Karen Catalozzi
Marq & Audrey Davis
- 16 - Greg & Diana Michel
Deane & Peggy Yankee
- 17 - Mark & Casey Boyer
Jeremy & Caitlin Lebowitz
- 18 - David & Fran Small
- 20 - Peter & Yvette Kite
Milan & Nancy Robbins
Rick & Ginny Umiker
- 26 - Jim & Lynne Urso
- 27 - John & Nancy Carlson
- 28 - Craig & Cathy Sanborn
- 29 - David & Jessica Fish
- 30 - Armelle DeLaforcade &
Lee Burress



More Celebrations

October Birthdays

- 2 - Angelica Perez
- 4 - Basil Brigandi
- 6 - Jamie Boyer
- 9 - Donald Zereski
- 12 - Casey Boyer
- 15 - Lori Metevia
Nancy Robbins
- 17 - Geoff Underwood
- 18 - Marnie Frankian
Isaac Meek
- 20 - Ben Umiker
- 21 - Meta Mitchell
- 22 - Michael Caluori, Jr.
- 25 - Kathryn Barrette
- 26 - Elaine Sanborn
- 27 - Nicholas Flahive
Chelsea Sanchez
- 28 - Melissa Flahive
- 30 - Jeff Barte

October Anniversaries

- 1 - Neal & Madge Szulga
- 2 - Scott & Edith Blackney
Don & Isobel Shapleigh
- 3 - Michael & Jessica
Calderone
John & Judith Watson
- 5 - Thomas & Heather
Plasterer
- 7 - Chuck & Marnie
Frankian
- 12 - Mark & Sonia Sheffield
Steve & Jane Symes
- 17 - Peggy Laneri &
Elizabeth Phalen
- 20 - Royal Stark & Christie
Hager
- 21 - Brianna & Stephanie
Hilow



Sabbatical Recap

— Michele Mongeon, Senior Warden—



On a rainy, hot and humid August night, we gathered in the parish hall for a Welcome Back and Come Together BBQ. We were anxious to hear from Fr.

Jesse about his time away from the parish and we were excited to tell him about what we did while he was away.

Larry fired up his grill, and with a little help from a couple of guys, he cooked up hamburgers, hot dogs, turkey burgers, and veggie burgers. People brought side dishes and desserts to share. All this came together to make a beautiful summer feast.

After eating our fill, it was time to share our mutual sabbatical experiences. Fr. Jesse set the tone for the evening. His theme, *Telling the Story, Sacred, Christian, Anglican/Episcopal, and Personal*, was woven through his presentation. He truly brought to life the sights and feelings of the Holy Land, Italy, the Episcopal church in this country, and his discovery of his family's roots in the earliest days of the American colonies. Imagine his surprise in discovering that

the Abells were prominent Anglicans in the Maryland colony, with a family tradition of service to the church! I'm sure his forefathers would be proud that 300 years after their settling and establishing their church that one of descendants serves as a Rector in the church.

Then came our chance to let Fr. Jesse know what we had been up to during his time away. Simon put our pictures into a lively, cohesive presentation and we enjoyed telling Fr. Jesse how we tried to follow his theme of *Telling the Story*. Our trips took us to the nearby Worcester Art Museum and a Trappist monastery. We took an 'armchair trip' to the Holy Land, highlighted by friends and parishioners who took the trip in 2015. We tried cooking Israeli food, we worked at the farm in monk-like silence, and we explored our own personal spiritual journey and different ways to pray.

What an evening! Despite the heat, how good it is to be back together again!





From the Editor's Desk



September is traditionally seen as the end of summer, what with Labor Day and all. I hope you've had a good summer, although I'm sure there are many more good days ahead. We still have our St. Stephen's camping weekend to come, which I'm sure will be as thoroughly enjoyable as it was last year.

Sharyn and I spent the summer alternating time between home and our camper; it's great fun to sit at our campsite and watch the various activities nearby. Just last weekend we had some campers nearby whose youngsters had radio-controlled cars buzzing around on the street in front of us. We were waiting for a crash between the cars and the bikers who speed down the hill just to the right of our site. We were sure that we would see a tremendous pileup of cars and bikes, but no mishaps occurred.

Sharyn and I spent a weekend in Millbrook, NY, at Dawn's place to celebrate her father-in-law's 80th birthday. It was a festive Italian occasion with about 90 guests and an 11-piece banjo band. The band wasn't *all* banjos; there was a variety of instruments: mandolins, a ukulele, a guitar, a piano, and two fiddles – one of which was played by an 8-year old girl who played her instrument extremely well.

I was particularly pleased because they played some songs from the 20's and 30's. They were a good group and played with spirit and gusto. Needless to say, there was food in abundance; no one went hungry unless by choice.

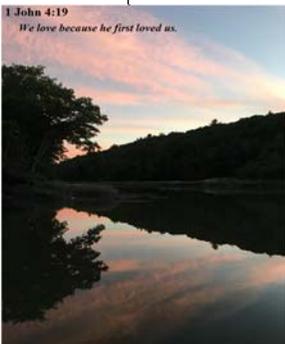
We left about noontime on Sunday, figuring we might beat the traffic tie-up at the junction of Rte 84 and the Mass Pike. Alas, this was not the case. 8-10 miles before the junction of the two roads the traffic came to a virtual standstill. So we decided to get off the Pike and come home Rte. 20. The traffic was not as bad, but driving through small towns with traffic lights meant slower times. But the drive was much more relaxing.

As we drove along, Sharyn and I commented on how God had blessed us with such a good in-law family. The Galentes and the Philcoxes got along well from the beginning and that has not changed over the years.

We've added a new appliance to our collection of useful machines. After years of dealing with sleep apnea, I again have a CPAP machine. I had tried one years ago but found it noisy and uncomfortable. Improvements have since been made and the new machine is much quieter and the new mask is more comfortable. I'm enjoying the best rest I've had in years.

I've been remiss in my church attendance this summer. I miss connecting to God and the fellowship of friends. I will try to get back in 'the swing of things' as fall commences. Men's group is restarting in September as are choir rehearsals and singing at the ten o'clock service. The fall Craft Fair is upon us; many hands are preparing useful, attractive and artistic items. Please plan on attending.

Peace,
frp



1 John 4:19
We love because he first loved us.

On Liturgical Development

— Fr. Jesse Abell —

In the past couple of decades, the approval of new liturgies and/or a proposal for revising The Book of Common Prayer has been on the docket for each triennial General Convention. That shouldn't be surprising. All liturgy is a culmination of years' and years' of tradition, prayer, and pastoral response to ever-changing needs of the Christian people and the world. (For instance, when the 1979 Prayer Book was drafted, the creators could not have imagined the need for liturgies in times of national crisis, like the September 11th terrorist attacks.)

Past General Conventions have punted potential revisions to the Prayer Book to future Conventions. This summer, the 79th General Convention finally dealt with the matter—sort of. In a compromise agreement between the two Houses, the current Book of Common Prayer was "memorialized", meaning that it will perpetually remain the official Prayer Book of the Episcopal Church. All future new liturgies will be published as separate authorized volumes of liturgy. This arrangement mirrors what has been the status quo in the Church of England and the Anglican Church of Canada for decades.

This General Convention also gave approval for trial use of the first revised texts of the 1979 Prayer Book. These texts are a very modest revision of the Rite II Holy Eucharist liturgies by the Rev. Laurie Brock. They seek to broaden the language describing both God and humanity to more expansive terms. This means that while we retain the traditional Lord's Prayer and the Trinitarian Formula, we also seek to describe God in ways other than masculine terms and to broaden descriptions of Jesus beyond just "Lord."

That may seem dramatic, but the narrow use of male language to describe God has not been uniform throughout Scripture or tradition.

The Church Fathers taught that "Wisdom" personified in the Old Testament was the pre-incarnate Second Person of the Trinity, who is described as a woman in the Hebrew text. (The same is true in Greek. The famous Hagia Sophia in Istanbul is dedicated to Christ as "Holy Wisdom" but Wisdom is Sophia and is feminine.)

Jesus also used feminine imagery at times to describe himself; for example, in Matthew 23:37 he says, "How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings..." (cf. Luke 15:8-10).

St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury from 1093-1109, referred to Christ as our "mother" and once described salvation in terms of Jesus "giving birth" on the Cross. St. Aelred of Riveaulx would later describe meditating upon the Passion as God's way of breast-feeding our souls.

The trial liturgy that was approved by General Convention is nowhere nearly as radical and expansive as those examples from Scripture and Tradition. You'll still pray the "Our Father," still hear about the Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Spirit, still say the same Nicene Creed (albeit with a slightly different—and more [faithful](#)—translation of the original Greek).

Please join us in giving this trial text a chance with an open mind and open heart. If Jesus teaches us anything, it's that God makes all things new.

From Our Deacon



I am grateful for the time of clergy leave we have just come through. Fr. Jesse had a unique time of renewal, reconnection, and refreshment from the life of a full-time rector. As Deacon, along with the parish community and leadership, I experienced new ways of being and learning what is possible. The fact that we already had good communication channels established was a blessing to all of us as we navigated the time together. We can inform many about St. Stephen's - not just inside the membership via email, but also the broader community via our website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts. These are wonderful tools to help make our parish known, a form of evangelism for sharing of our story with others.

Continuation of these well-established communication patterns will help us. After the lazier days of summer, parish life is busier with the new program year underway. Information will be shared on many levels. I encourage you to communicate any personal needs – pastoral or non-pastoral - to clergy or leadership. This is easily done via a phone call to the parish office, email, or by setting up a meeting. May our communication continue be a blessing for all.

In Peace,
Beth

MISCELLANY

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE RESUMES

On Sunday, September 9, our new program year will begin, Sunday School will start, and we will move back to our more Sunday schedule:

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist (quiet service without music)
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Choir and Hymns
- 10:00 am Sunday School (concurrent with the first part of the Liturgy)

FALL FAIR PLANNING

A small, but steadfast group of women has been meeting once a month since June and working on a variety of crafts for our fall fair to be held on Saturday, November 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 25 at 7pm in the Parish Hall. We have accomplished a few things but much more needs to be done in order to ensure a successful fair. We are hopeful that our "home crafters" have been working as well and we are looking for folks who might be willing to make some holiday aprons for us. Sewing projects are difficult to work on in our monthly meetings and we are looking for folks who are comfortable with a sewing machine to come up with some projects that they could contribute.

As in the past, in addition to handcrafted items, we will offer baked goods, jewelry, wood items, upscale "Grampa's attic" items as well as popular recycled Christmas merchandise. Because the fair will be held in November, we will also be offering handcrafted items with a "fall" theme.

Providing complimentary coffee and muffins in the morning has been very successful in the past and we will offer this again as well as a luncheon menu for those wishing to stay and buy lunch.

So...plans are coming along nicely and we look forward to the parish coming together to support this fund-raising venture. Please feel free to contact Sharyn Philcox (508-393-6858 or grammysharyn@gmail.com) with offers of help or with questions.

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH DASHBOARD

| | June-July 2018 | 2018 YTD | June-July 2017 | 2017 YTD |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Average Sunday Attendance | 68 | 87 | 78 | 96 |
| Total Income | \$36,144 | \$133,129 | \$36,823 | \$142,234 |
| Total Expenses | \$41,013 | \$141,349 | \$38,195 | \$140,103 |
| Operating Deficit/Surplus | -\$4,869 | -\$8,220 | -\$1,372 | \$2,131 |
| Actual Contributions | \$32,831 | \$115,249 | \$30,824 | \$115,198 |
| Contributions Needed | \$34,339 | \$120,185 | \$33,258 | \$116,403 |
| Deficit/Surplus | -\$1,508 | -\$4,936 | -\$2,434 | -\$1,205 |



Announcements & Notices



INTRODUCING NATE ABELL: Aidan is thrilled to share the news of the birth of his little brother Nathaniel Francis Abell to the St.

Stephen's family. Nate, son of Fr. Jesse and Allison Abell, was born at 12:24pm on August 29, 2018, measuring 21.5 inches long and weighing 8 lbs 4 oz. Mom and baby are doing very great!

PARISH CAMPING TRIP: It is almost time for our parish camping trip. If you would like to join us Friday, Sept. 28 – Sunday, Sept. 30 at Pine Acres family campground in Oakham, MA please see Larry Gavini to sign up or email him at lgavini508@gmail.com.

MEN'S GROUP: The parish's Men's Group will begin meeting September 22. We will meet the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at 8am in the Parish Hall. See Simon Fricker for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN & PRAYER CIRCLE: A ministry of Prayer is important in the life of the church because it is a means of communication between God and men. Through prayer, things can be changed when we learn to talk to God. Through prayer, our spiritual lives, either individually or corporately grow. Our parish leadership would like to foster a stronger ministry of prayer within the church and are seeking folks who would be willing to be members of either the prayer chain or the prayer circle. The prayer chain is composed of folks who would receive prayer requests and pray daily in their own homes. The prayer circle would receive prayer requests and would meet together weekly at the church to pray confidentially for others.

If you think you might be called to this ministry, please see Sharyn Philcox or David Small who can give you more details and answer any questions you might have.

If you have a prayer request on behalf of either yourself or someone else, again, please see Sharyn or David or call the church office.

PRAYER SHAWLS: The Yarn Club of St. Stephen's has made Pocket Prayer Shawls and traditional Prayer Shawls for our parish community. If you have a need or know of someone that could find comfort in one of these shawls,



please contact Milan Robbins, Vestry person for Parish Life, or Fr. Jesse. The pocket prayer shawls are small enough to be tucked into pockets, purses, even inside helmets and are easily carried into surgery or taken on trips. They have a cross motif in the center. The attached card reads: "May this pocket-sized prayer shawl, made with love and infused with prayers, be a sign of God's sustaining presence. May it refresh your weariness and provide comfort in your anxiety. May it make available to you healing for your pain and consolation for your loneliness. May it bring joy, gladness and brightest blessings. ~St. Stephen's Episcopal The Yarn Club hopes to spread comfort through their handiwork, so please think of these shawls as you see or hear of a person seeking/ needing comfort. If you would like to join this ministry, the Yarn Club meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m., in the Lawton Library on the lower level. They make many different items for various charities. Contact Ann Bartee with any questions about the club.



HELP OUR LITTLE RED WAGON: The Westboro Food Pantry thanks all of you who have been supporting them by donating to our "Little Red Wagon". They are in need of personal feminine hygiene products, shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper, shaving cream, and razors for both men and women.

ARE YOU NEW TO ST. STEPHEN'S? Welcome! If you are new to St. Stephen's and you would like to join the parish, please see Deacon Beth to learn more about how to do so. *We'd love to have you in the next edition of the parish directory and the parish prayer lists.*

ALTAR FLOWERS: You can dedicate flowers in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one by signing up on the flower chart in the Narthex. Put the envelope with date you have chosen, the dedication, and your check for the flowers in the Treasurer's mailbox. *(Suggested donation: \$75)*

SANCTUARY LAMP: You can also dedicate the Sanctuary Lamp in memory of a loved one by signing the Sanctuary Lamp sheet in the Narthex. Put the envelope with date you have chosen, the dedication, and your check in the Treasurer's mail box.

OUR CONDOLENCES, on behalf of the whole *Beacon* team, to the loved ones of those who passed away in recent months: Eleanor Legg, Gail Belmore (*friend of Nic Guerra*), Carol Hanson (*mother of Audrey Davis*), Barbara Murray (*mother of Heather Plasterer*), and Marcus Cunningham, Priest.

* * *

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD

November 3—FALL FAIR

December 2—BISHOP'S VISITATION

December 15—THE LIVING NATIVITY



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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"Walk with Christ and share the journey."

Parish Staff

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The Rev. Hilary Bogert-Winkler, *Assisting*
The Rev. Beth Washburn, *Deacon*
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Peter Williams, *Sexton*

Beacon Team

Kelly Barner, *Managing Editor*
Fred Philcox, *Editor Emeritus*

Parish Vestry

Michele Mongeon, *Sr. Warden*
David Small, *Jr. Warden*
Lynne Urso, *Treasurer*
Greg Michel, *Clerk*
Rick Umiker, *Service*
Meta Mitchell, *Worship*
Stephanie Borgia Lunberg, *Education*
Deane Yankee, *Evangelism*
Milan Robbins, *Parish Life*



Scan our QR Code
on a smartphone
to visit our website

Events in September and October

Parish Homecoming Sunday - September 9

8:00 am - Holy Eucharist (*without music*)

9:00 am—Pot Luck Brunch

10:00 am - Sunday School begins

10:00 am - Holy Eucharist with music & choir

11:30am - Pot Luck Brunch

Ministry Fair - September 9 (*after both services*)

PARISH CALENDAR

| SEPTEMBER 2018 | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9am – Holy Eucharist | 3 Labor Day Parish Office Closed | 4 7p – Sunday School Teachers Mtg. | 5 12p – Bulletin Deadline | 6 6:30p – Choir Practice | 7 9a – Friday Folders | 8 |
| 9 Homecoming Sunday 8a – Holy Eucharist (<i>quiet</i>) 10a – Holy Eucharist 10a – Sunday School | 10 4:30p – Exec. Cmte. 7p – Finance Cmte. | 11 | 12 12p – Bulletin Deadline | 13 9:30a - Efm 6:30p - Choir Practice 6:30p - EfM | 14 9a – Friday Folders 9a – Newcomers Mtg. | 15 |
| 16 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 8a – Holy Eucharist (<i>quiet</i>) 10a – Holy Eucharist 10a – Sunday School 5p – Pilgrims In Christ | 17 | 18 | 19 12p – Bulletin Deadline | 20 9:30a - Efm 6:30p - Choir Practice 6:30p - EfM | 21 9a – Friday Folders | 22 8a – Men’s Group |
| 23 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8a – Holy Eucharist (<i>quiet</i>) 10a – Holy Eucharist 10a – Sunday School 1:30a – Vestry Meeting | 24 | 25 7p – Fall Fair Planning Workshop | 26 12p – Bulletin Deadline 5p – Newsletter Deadline | 27 9:30a - Efm 6:30p - Choir Practice 6:30p - EfM | 28 9a – Friday Folders Parish Camp Trip | 29 9:30a - Card Ministry Parish Camp Trip |
| 30 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 8a – Holy Eucharist (<i>quiet</i>) 10a – Holy Eucharist 10a – Sunday School Parish Camp Trip | | | | | | |

| OCTOBER 2018 | | | | | | |
|--|--|----|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|
| | 1 4:30p – Exec. Cmte. 7p – Finance Cmte. | 2 | 3 12p – Bulletin Deadline | 4 9:30a - Efm 6:30p - Choir Practice 6:30p - EfM | 5 9a – Friday Folders | 6 |
| 7 St. Francis Sunday 8a – Holy Eucharist (<i>quiet</i>) 10a – Holy Eucharist 10a – Sunday School | 8 Columbus Day Parish Office Closed | 9 | 10 12p – Bulletin Deadline | 11 9:30a - Efm 6:30p - Choir Practice 6:30p - EfM | 12 9a – Friday Folders | 13 8a – Men’s Group |
| 14 The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost 8a – Holy Eucharist (<i>quiet</i>) 10a – Holy Eucharist 10a – Sunday School | 15 | 16 | 17 12p – Bulletin Deadline | 18 9:30a - Efm 6:30p - Choir Practice 6:30p - EfM | 19 9a – Friday Folders | 20 |
| 21 The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost 8a – Holy Eucharist (<i>quiet</i>) 10a – Holy Eucharist 10a – Sunday School 5p – Pilgrims In Christ | 22 | 23 | 24 12p – Bulletin Deadline | 25 9:30a - Efm 6:30p - Choir Practice 6:30p - EfM | 26 9a – Friday Folders | 27 8a – Men’s Group 9:30a – Card Ministry |
| 28 The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost 8a – Holy Eucharist (<i>quiet</i>) 10a – Holy Eucharist 10a – Sunday School 11:30a – Vestry Meeting | 29 | 30 | 31 12p – Bulletin Deadline | | | |

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018 LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

| | Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost | Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost <i>Homecoming Sunday</i> | Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost | Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost | Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | September 9 (8AM) | September 16 (8AM) | September 23 (8AM) | September 30 (8AM) |
| Server | | Rhonda Russian | Geoff Underwood | Bev Boyer | Rhonda Russian |
| Lector | | Sal Giorlandino | Skip Ashton | David Small | Skip Ashton |
| Coffee Hour | | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed |
| Celebrant | | Fr. Jesse | Fr. Jesse | Mo. Hilary | Fr. Jesse |
| Preacher | | Deacon Beth | Fr. Jesse | Mo. Hilary | Fr. Jesse |
| | September 2 (9AM) | September 9 (10AM) | September 16 (10AM) | September 23 (10AM) | September 30 (10AM) |
| Crucifer | Steve Symes | Steve Symes | K.C. Waldbillig | David Small | Dan Wirtenson |
| Acolyte | David Small | Maru Holland | Matthew Meek | Meta Mitchell | Jeff Bartee |
| Acolyte | Matthew Meek | Emma Meek | Sharyn Philcox | K.C. Waldbillig | Emily Bartee |
| LEM | Meta Mitchell | Simon Fricker | Gale McKenzie | Sharyn Philcox | Jeff Bartee |
| LEM | Gale McKenzie | Yvette Kite | Sharyn Philcox | Meta Mitchell | Jim Urso |
| Lector | Simon Fricker | Polly Struthers | Steve Symes | Rick Umiker | Lynne Urso |
| Lector | N/A | Jim Urso | Lynne Urso | Jessica Fricker-Waldbillig | Peter Kite |
| Intercessor | Jessica Fricker-Waldbillig | Sharyn Philcox | Chris Scheffel | Jeff Bartee | Jim Urso |
| Ushers | John & Faith Howarth | B. Deysher / G. Barrette | Peggy & Deane Yankee | John & Faith Howarth | Ann & Emily Bartee |
| Vestry Person | Milan Robbins | Milan Robbins | Lynne Urso | David Small | Rick Umiker |
| Coffee Hour | C. Scheffel, M. Kehler, G. Pruden | POTLUCK BRUNCH | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed |
| Loafing Ministry | Yvette Kite | N. Robbins / M. Holland | Diana Michel | Cindy Day / Nancy Foster | Elaine Sanborn |
| Sunday Counters | F. Howarth / D. Wirtenson | D. Yankee / M. Holland | Peter Kite / Vinod George | B. Deysher / S. Philcox | Peter Kite / Bob Deysher |
| Altar Guild | Team 3 | Team 4 | Team 1 | Team 2 | Team 3 |
| Celebrant | Mo. Hilary | Fr. Jesse | Fr. Jesse | Fr. Jesse | Fr. Jesse |
| Preacher | Mo. Hilary | Deacon Beth | Fr. Jesse | Mo. Hilary | Fr. Jesse |
| Assisting | Deacon Beth | - | - | Deacon Beth | - |

| | First Sunday of Creation: St. Francis Sunday | Second Sunday of Creation | Third Sunday of Creation | Feast of St. Simon & St. Jude, Apostles | All Saints Day |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 8:00 AM | October 7 (8AM) | October 14 (8AM) | October 21 (8AM) | October 28 (8AM) | November 4 (8AM) |
| Server | Rhonda Russian | Geoff Underwood | Bev Boyer | David Small | Rhonda Russian |
| Lector | Sal Giorlandino | Skip Ashton | Rhonda Russian | Geoff Underwood | Sal Giorlandino |
| Coffee Hour | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed |
| Celebrant | Mo. Hilary | Fr. Jesse | Fr. Jesse | Fr. Jesse | TBD |
| Preacher | Mo. Hilary | Fr. Jesse | Meta Mitchell | Fr. Jesse | TBD |
| 10:00 AM | October 7 (10AM) | October 14 (10AM) | October 21 (10AM) | October 28 (10AM) | November 4 (10AM) |
| Crucifer | David Small | Simon Fricker | Deane Yankee | Dan Wirtenson | Jim Urso |
| Acolyte | Emily Bartee | Emma Meek | Matthew Meek | David Small | Bev Boyer |
| Acolyte | Jeff Bartee | Maru Holland | Meta Mitchell | K.C. Waldbillig | Emily Bartee |
| LEM | Jeff Bartee | Yvette Kite | Alex Boyer | Gale McKenzie | Jim Urso |
| LEM | Simon Fricker | Meta Mitchell | Bev Boyer | David Small | Lynne Urso |
| Lector | Meta Mitchell | Michele Mongeon | Sharyn Philcox | Chris Scheffel | Jeff Bartee |
| Lector | Steve Symes | Polly Struthers | Rick Umiker | Simon Fricker | Polly Struthers |
| Intercessor | David Small | Lynne Urso | Jessica Fricker-Waldbillig | Peter Kite | TBD |
| Ushers | Glenn & Michele Mongeon | G. Barrette / B. Deysher | Deane & Peggy Yankee | John & Faith Howarth | Jeff & Ann Bartee |
| Vestry Person | Meta Mitchell | Deane Yankee | Stephanie Lundberg | David Small | Michele Mongeon |
| Coffee Hour | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed | Host(s) needed |
| Loafing Ministry | Yvette Kite | N. Robbins / B. Calouri | Cindy Day | D. Michel / A. Deysher | Elaine Sanborn |
| Sunday Counters | Faith Howarth / Dan Wirtenson | D. Yankee / M. Holland | Peer Kite / Vinod George | B. Deysher / S. Philcox | F. Howarth / D. Wirtenson |
| Altar Guild | Team 4 | Team 1 | Team 2 | Team 3 | Team 4 |
| Celebrant | Fr. Jesse | Mo. Hilary | Fr. Jesse | Mo. Hilary | TBD |
| Preacher | Mo. Hilary | Fr. Jesse | Deacon Beth | Fr. Jesse | TBD |
| Assisting | Deacon Beth | Deacon Beth | Deacon Beth | Deacon Beth | Deacon Beth |