

The Ambassador

October 2017

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Monthly Newsletter

*A vital, eclectic Episcopal congregation
committed to the ministry of all the baptized.*



Capital Campaign

The St. Stephen's Capital Campaign is off to a great start. Through September we have raised almost \$15,000 toward the goal of \$20,000. But this is no time to rest on our laurels. During October there are a number of events planned to help us reach our goal, including the following:

- 1) Book/yard/garage/bake sale from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturday, October 7, at Leo Wilking's residence at 1115 South 8th Street. Bring your books and other sale items to Leo's house between 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. that morning, or drop them off at the church on Sunday, October 1;
- 2) Silent auction in church undercroft from Sunday, October 15, through Sunday, October 29, featuring works of art and other special items donated by members of St. Stephen's;
- 3) Look for a flyer in your e-mail or at church to participate in a fundraising event at Panera Bread at 4000 West 13th Ave. SW (West Acres Mall). Bring the flyer or an electronic version to Panera from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 18, and Panera will donate 20% of your order to the capital campaign;
- 4) "indulgence drop" bucket (in the undercroft) throughout the month of October.

The Capital Campaign ends on October 31. For details on any of these events contact capital campaign committee members Beth Demmons (beth.demmons@gmail.com), Mike Morrissey (mikemorrissey1@mac.com), Amy Phillips (kaphillip@gmail.com) or Leo Wilking (leowilking@hotmail.com).



Bishop Gallagher's Visit on October 22

We are very happy to welcome Bishop Carol Gallagher back at St. Stephen's as she makes her second visit to St. Stephen's on Sunday, October 22. A potluck will follow the Mass.

An Episcopal Visitation is an opportunity for us to connect with the whole of the Church in the person of our Bishop. It is a chance for us to show our Bishop the vitality of our congregation and share with her news of our common life. An Episcopal Visitation is also an occasion for people to be Confirmed and Received into the Episcopal Church.

Confirmation

In Confirmation, we publicly reaffirm, in the presence of our local community and the Bishop (whose presence represents that of the whole Church), the promises we made—or which our parents made on our behalf—at baptism.

Reception

Those who have been previously Confirmed by the laying on of hands of a bishop in another communion of the Church, may be Received into the Episcopal Church.

We will also be welcoming any new members who would like to be recognized during the service that morning.

If anyone is interested in being Confirmed or officially Received into the Episcopal Church or simply recognized as a new member, please send an email to Fr. Jamie so you can fill out a Confirmation/Reception form.



Stewardship and Pledging for 2018

The kick-off for our fall stewardship/pledge effort will be Sunday, November 12. Lunch, provided by the vestry, will follow the worship service on that Sunday. Pledge packets with both financial pledge cards and time and talent pledge forms will be available that day.

As you may note, this stewardship/pledge time follows closely on the Capital Campaign. Even though these two efforts, the one-time Capital Campaign and the annual stewardship/pledge time, are taking place in the same general time period this year, there is a big difference between them. That's especially important to recognize, because it may start to feel that there's "too much money talk" at church these days.

BUT, the fact is that BOTH are very important to the ongoing mission and ministry of St. Stephen's. The Capital Campaign is a one-time effort focused on addressing some "needy" aspects of our buildings in order to be sure they can continue to serve us adequately and efficiently. These needs simply cannot be managed in our current annual budget. However, the Vestry has pledged to include a significant maintenance line item in future budgets, beginning with 2018, to avoid a backlog of maintenance needs.

The stewardship/pledge time is our annual opportunity to make a commitment to our ongoing life together. It is a commitment to sustaining and supporting all that we do, both in our congregation and in the world beyond. Pledge income provides the following kinds of regular and ongoing expenses (these are examples, not a complete listing):

- * Salary for priest and organist (please keep in mind that we still have not achieved a full-time salary for Fr. Jamie; currently only 70% of the diocesan standard)
- * Insurances
- * Worship supplies
- * Utilities and office supplies
- * Cleaning, lawn care, snow removal
- * Outreach - Guatemala Medical Mission, East African Scholarships, seminary and diocesan support

Making a pledge of both money and time/talent is an important way that we each affirm the importance of God in our lives and especially as we experience God's presence through St. Stephen's. A pledge demonstrates our commitment to full participation in the life of St. Stephen's and expresses our gratitude to God for all God's blessings.



Prayer for St. Stephen's During Pledge Time

Lord Christ, surround us with your love. Be present in this congregation of St. Stephen's as you have been since our beginning. Let us know your presence among us – in the sacrament, in your Word and in those who have gathered here in your name. Let your Spirit be present with us and in all we do. Open our hearts and our minds to the goodness you are doing here through us. And let us respond appropriately. Bless St. Stephen's with abundance and with the resources needed to do the ministries we do here. Let us, in turn, do good. Let peace reign with us, even as wars and rumors of wars rage about us. And let your words of assurance to us calm our hearts and souls so that we can do what you have called us to do. In your name, we pray in confidence. Amen.

Adult Education & Spiritual Formation Sessions

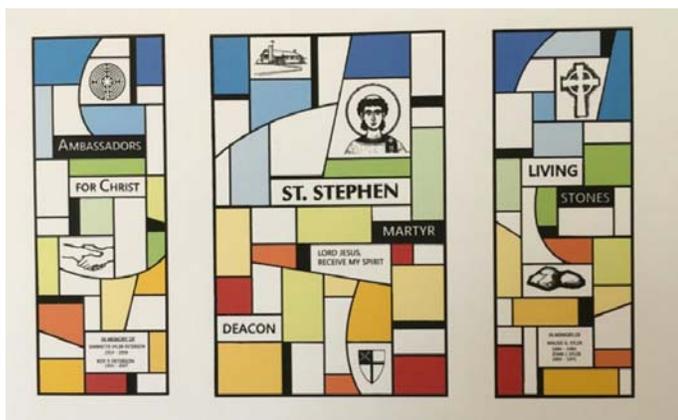
The Vestry's Education Committee is sponsoring monthly adult education/spiritual formation sessions in the coming months. These one-hour sessions are relaxed conversations open to anyone who would like to chat with other members of St. Stephen's about particular topics as chosen by the facilitators. No previous knowledge of the topic is necessary!

The first session will take place on October 15, at approximately 12:45 p.m. in the church office (lower level). John Anderson will be the facilitator and his topic of discussion is "The Communication Skills of Jesus." He describes the session as follows: "We revere Jesus as Lord and founder of our faith. We echo His words in prayer and worship. But what can we learn from Jesus that can help us in our lives as we communicate with others? Participants may bring their favorite Bibles as we will be examining passages." Everyone is welcome to attend!

St. Stephen Window Will Be Dedicated on October 22

Our fifth window in the nave will be dedicated and blessed during Bishop Gallagher's visit on October 22. The window is being dedicated in honor of our patron saint, St. Stephen. It has been given by John Peterson in memory of his parents and grandparents who were members of St. Stephen's.

Designed by Gin Templeton and built by Michael Orchard Studio, the window will be installed the week before the dedication on October 22.



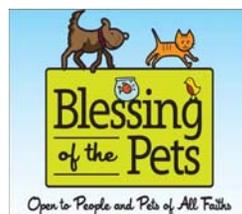
Fiber Arts Festival

By John Baird

It was a beautiful day to dye silk at Rheault Farm on Saturday, August 12. Over 800 people attended the fiber arts festival. Our St. Stephen's silk dyeing booth was busy the whole day with a variety of people enjoying themselves. Children tried out their artistic abilities and adults dyed scarves and even sunhats. Carefully planned patterns or random surprises were colorful and beautiful. We raised a total of \$629 that will be used to support the Guatemala medical/dental mission. Thank you to our talented and dedicated volunteers - Leo Wilking, Jan Stewart, Sue Morrissey, Sandy Holbrook, Gin Templeton, Donna Clark, as well as Yiny Yang and Stephen Baird.

Thanksgiving Eve at St. Stephen's

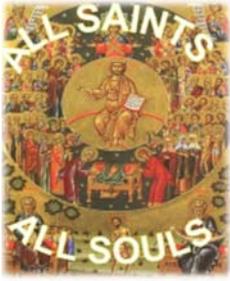
Join us as we celebrate the Eve of Thanksgiving with a special celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22, (there will be no 6:00 p.m. Mass that evening).



Blessing of Pets October 1, 2017

Join us on Sunday, October 1, at 1:00 p.m. as we celebrate our animal companions and honor St. Francis of Assisi with a service of Blessing of Pets. All animals and pets are welcome. We will gather in front of the church for the service.





Octave of All Saints/All Souls

Once again this year at St. Stephen's we will devote an entire week to celebrate the saints in our lives. In preparation for the Feast of All Saints (which is one of the most important feast days in our Church year), we will be remembering all of the saints in our lives (those whom we have loved and who have shown us something of who God is). We will be offering several opportunities at St. Stephen's to honor those who have passed on before us to the larger Communion of Saints.

- + Beginning the week of October 29th, a list will be placed in the Narthex for you to write the names of your deceased loved ones so they may be remembered at the special Requiem Mass we will celebrate on Wednesday November 1. You can also send any names to Fr. Jamie at apium@aol.com and he will make sure that their names placed on the altar on All Saints Sunday and that they are remembered at the Requiem Mass.
- + A special altar will once again be placed in the Narthex. Please bring a photograph or other memento of your loved one to be displayed there from October 29 through November 5.
- + Attend the All Saints Sunday Mass on November 5 and the Requiem Mass at 6:00 pm Wednesday, November 1.

Wednesday, November 1, 6:00 pm – *Requiem Mass* for all our deceased loved ones

Fr. Jamie – *celebrant/preacher*

James Mackay, *music*

The names of all those buried from St. Stephen's throughout the years, as well as those written on the list in the Narthex will be read.

Incense will be offered at this Mass

Supper afterward at a local restaurant

Sunday, November 5– *All Saints Sunday*

11:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

Fr. Jamie – *celebrant/preacher*



Dedication Sunday

Dedication Sunday, on September 10, was one of those perfect Sunday mornings. We had a full house, lots of children, we blessed backpacks, kicked off a new year of Children's Chapel, launched our first Capital Campaign in 20+ years, and blessed and dedicated our fourth stained glass window, as well as celebrated our music ministry with some truly beautiful music. I am so fortunate to serve such an eclectic, unique



Dan Rice, Amy Phillips, James Mackay, Annette Morrow, and Fr. Jamie at the dedication of the St. Cecilia Window



James Mackay in front of the panel dedicated to him.



Blessing of Backpacks

Around St. Stephen's

Weddings

Leonard Mattern and **Judy Gibbins** were married in the church at Bonanzaville in West Fargo on Saturday, September 16. Fr. Jamie officiated at the service.

Burial

We recently learned of the death, last November, of one of our former members, **Warren Jackman**. Warren, who died November 3, 2016, moved to Galena, Illinois, following the death of his wife Levon on February 5, 2016. A memorial mass was held at Grace Church, Galena, on Saturday, November 26, 2016. Burial of ashes was in Resurrection Gardens at Grace Church next to Levon's.

Warren and Levon made friends with many of us at St. Stephen's in the short time they were members of our church. News of his death, even this long afterward, is met with great sadness. A Requiem Mass for Warren was celebrated at St. Stephen's on Wednesday, September 20.

A Requiem Mass for **Marilyn Gilbert**, mother of Jonathan Gilbert, was held at St. Stephen's on Saturday, September 23, with Fr. Jamie as celebrant. Her ashes were interred in the memorial garden following the mass.

Anniversary



Jim and **Joy Coffey** celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Saturday, September 23, with an open house at St. Stephen's. It was a joyous occasion,

Other News



Leo Wilking was named a 2017 Great Plains Super Lawyer. He was honored appropriately after Mass on September 24th.

Delegates to Diocese of North Dakota Convention 2017

St. Stephen's will send ten delegates to the Diocese of North Dakota convention in Bismarck, October 20-21. They are Fr. Jamie, John Baird, Steve Bolduc, Sandy Holbrook, Catherine McMullen, Laura Nylander, Amy Phillips, Dan Rice, Gin Templeton, and Leo Wilking.



"My parents will come to church again if you switch to rosé."

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

120 21st Ave N, Fargo, ND 232-2076
Fr. Jamie's cell 793-1953

St. Stephen's web site: ststephensfargo.org
St. Stephen's blog spot: www.ststephensfargo.blogspot.com

Schedule of Ministries at St. Stephen's for October-November

Schedule	October 1	October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29
Acolyte	Katie Sando	Kristofer Sando	N. Demmons	Anderson	Meister
Altar Guild	Hauan	Hauan	Holbrook	Holbrook	Marubbio
Worship Ldr/EM	Wiling	Weightman	Anderson	Baird	J. Sando
Lector	Hill	Morrissey	McMullen	Holbrook	Nylander
Usher	Phillips	Wilson	P. Sando	Bolduc	Anderson
	Rice	Wiling	Kristofer Sando	Clark	Pltzel
Euch. Visitor	Baird	Clark	Anderson	Holbrook	Weightman
Coffee	Morrissey	Sando	Tackling	POTLUCK	Andersons
Cleaning	Clark	Holbrook	Holbrook	Marubbio	Marubbio
Children's Chapel	<i>Leader: Bolduc Assist: Holbrook</i>	<i>Leader: Gelinske Assist: Gelinske</i>	<i>Leader: Clark Assist: McMullen</i>	<i>Leader: Morrissey Assist: S. Tackling</i>	<i>Leader: Rice Assist: Holbrook</i>
Schedule	November 5	November 12	November 19	November 26	
Acolyte	Holbrook	Anderson	Katie Sando	Kristofer Sando	
Altar Guild	Marubbio	Bolduc	Bolduc	Nylander	
Worship Ldr/EM	Weightman	Wiling	Anderson	Baird	
Lector	Phillips	Rice	Paul Sando	Jean Sando	
Usher	Baird	Nylander	Marubbio	McMullen	
	Bolduc	Hill	Marubbio	McMullen	
Euch. Visitor	Anderson	Clark	Holbrook	Weightman	
Coffee	Baird	Stewardship	Clark	Morrissey	
	Holbrook	Lunch – VESTRY	Templeton	Morrissey	
Cleaning	Rice	Rice	Anderson	Anderson	
Children's Chapel	<i>Leader: Bolduc Assist: B. Gelinske</i>	<i>Leader: Clark Assist: Holbrook</i>	<i>Leader: T. Gelinske Assist: McMullen</i>	No Chapel	

*Communion is available for those who are unable to attend Sunday worship. Please call the church to request communion after the Sunday service.

**If you are unavailable to serve on a date when you are assigned, please find a substitute and let James (evensong2@gmail.com) now who the substitute will be as early as possible so he can include the correct names in the bulletins.