



**Altar Flower Orders**

[ststeve.org/flowers](https://ststeve.org/flowers)

**Calendar of Events**

<https://www.ststeve.org/calendar>

**Christ Centered Prayer** (Zoom), Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84058991664?pwd=Z25MdEpheXh2YzJlNzNaTU9TSTgwZz09>

**Daily Meditations**

[ststeve.org/meditations](https://ststeve.org/meditations)

**Facility/Room Reservations**

<https://ststevewimberley.wufoo.com/forms/facilityroom-use/>

**God's Garden Registration** (Summer Program ages 4-12)

[ststeve.org/registration](https://ststeve.org/registration)

**Sunday Service Live Stream** (YouTube, Facebook), Sundays, 10:30 a.m.

[ststeve.org/sunday](https://ststeve.org/sunday)

In-building, in-person services are held at 8:00 in the Chapel & 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

## COLUMNS

### NEWS FROM YOUR TREASURER

*By Roy Buckley*

Another month of solid results, pertinent to Pledge revenue receipts, fell upon SSEC during the month of April. Just as occurred during the first three months of financial activities, the somewhat robust stream of pledge receipts was due in large part to several members who have chosen to make a single lump sum Pledge payment covering their Pledge commitments for the entire year. Yet, even April's normal monthly accruing pledge receipts exceeded that paid in March 2021. If there is a downside to this seemingly abundant stream of Pledge



revenue, it is that normal monthly accruing Pledge receipts will shrink somewhat during the 2nd half of 2021. To date, approximately 10% of budgeted Pledge revenue posted in 2021 has been tendered as annual lump sum payments, the results of which have placed SSEC in a budget-surplus position during the first half of 2021. March monthly accruing Pledge receipts totaled \$29,282 and increased to \$31,744 in the following month of April. Total revenues for the month of March and April were \$53,482 and \$43,407 respectively. Year-to-date cumulative revenues were \$264,476 slightly ahead of Budget by \$5,088. As of April 30, 2021 our To-Date Net Ordinary Surplus is \$81,786, exceeding budget expectations by \$24,566.

The expense side of the Financial Statements of Activities continues to reflect upon the solid expense control and management procedures set by Parish Administration. March cumulative expenses were \$52,774 and for April were \$42,273. Both months bettered our Budget expectations by sizeable margins. Applause, applause to our Admin team – Jeannetta, Lydia, and Fr. Kevin.

The below Revenue/Expense schedule, in summary form, juxtaposes for comparative purposes financial activities during the months of March and April 2021.

In summary, one-off Pledge receipts and lump sum annual pledge payments continue to infuse the operating account with cash at an early point in the year, helping SSEC maintain a strong surplus position in its Net Ordinary Operating activities through the end of April.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please drop a note to me in my McArthur Hall mail box.

*Blessing to all,  
Roy R. Buckley, Treasurer and Finance*

	<b>Actual Mar-21</b>	<b>Budget Mar-21</b>	<b>Actual Apr-21</b>	<b>Budget Apr-21</b>	<b>Actual To-Date</b>	<b>Budget To-Date</b>
<b>Pledge Income</b>	\$29,281.83	\$33,593.75	\$31,743.83	\$33,593.75	\$114,204.32	\$134,375.00
<b>Pledge Pre-Paid/Carried Forward</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$78,050.00	\$78,050.00
<b>Pledge Annual Lump Sum</b>	\$21,100.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,600.00	\$0.00	\$56,500.00	\$34,800.00
<b>TOTAL PLEDGE INCOME</b>	<b>\$50,381.83</b>	<b>\$39,593.75</b>	<b>\$38,343.83</b>	<b>\$33,593.75</b>	<b>\$248,754.32</b>	<b>\$247,225.00</b>
<b>Offerings</b>	\$770.00	\$550.00	\$0.00	\$550.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,200.00
<b>Non-Pledge Income</b>	\$90.00	\$2,083.00	\$2,518.37	\$2,083.00	\$4,497.06	\$8,332.00
<b>Fund Raising Income</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Special Gift Income</b>	\$1,645.00	\$250.00	\$2,345.00	\$250.00	\$3,990.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Flower Income</b>	\$495.00	\$158.00	\$200.00	\$158.00	\$1,305.00	\$632.00
<b>Prior Year Pledge</b>	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,930.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Ordinary Inflow</b>	<b>\$53,481.83</b>	<b>\$42,634.75</b>	<b>\$43,407.20</b>	<b>\$36,634.75</b>	<b>\$264,476.38</b>	<b>\$259,389.00</b>
<b>APPORTIONMENT</b>	\$7,335.00	\$7,335.00	\$7,335.00	\$7,335.00	\$29,340.00	\$29,340.00
<b>CONTRACT LABOR</b>						
<b>EVANGELISM &amp; FORMATION</b>	\$0.00	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$42.00	\$0.00	\$168.00
<b>MINISTRY</b>	\$88.36	\$275.00	\$0.00	\$785.00	\$773.85	\$1,610.00
<b>OPERATING</b>	\$13,802.02	\$16,092.00	\$4,779.79	\$7,780.50	\$28,278.71	\$37,708.50
<b>RECTOR RELOCATION</b>	\$1,520.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,520.00	\$2,500.00
<b>STAFF</b>	\$30,028.75	\$31,779.00	\$30,158.77	\$31,779.00	\$122,778.03	\$130,842.56
<b>Total Ordinary Outflow</b>	<b>\$52,774.13</b>	<b>\$58,023.00</b>	<b>\$42,273.56</b>	<b>\$47,721.50</b>	<b>\$182,690.59</b>	<b>\$202,169.06</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$707.70</b>	<b>(\$15,388.25)</b>	<b>\$1,133.64</b>	<b>(\$11,086.75)</b>	<b>\$81,785.79</b>	<b>\$57,219.94</b>

## VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

*By Phil Muth, Vestry Clerk*



The Vestry met on Monday, May 24, 2021. Roy Buckley, SSEC Treasurer, provided a review of church finances. We continue to do well, particularly in controlling expenses. We are approximately \$20,000 below our budget for expenses. Well done, Staff.

On Monday, June 21, St. Stephen's will officially celebrate Fr. Kevin's new ministry as our rector. The Rt. Rev. David Reed, Bishop Diocesan, will attend and will preach. A light dinner and refreshments will be served in McArthur Hall at 5:30 p.m. and the service will follow in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. The service will also be live-streamed. *(See separate article for YouTube and Facebook links.)*



We resumed in-person Sunday worship services on Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021. The combined attendance for the two services was 143. Many thanks to the Worship Team who figured out how to manage these services during a pandemic.

We have set the First Fruits date for Sunday, October 24, 2021. We are pleased to announce that Old Glory Ranch will be the venue. The auction will be virtual this year. Stay tuned to upcoming editions of the eNEWS for more details.

The next Vestry meeting will be Monday, June 28, 2021. As a reminder, our meetings are open to all and held in McArthur Hall at 6:00 p.m.

*Peace,  
Phil Muth, Vestry Clerk*

## NEWS

### YOU ARE INVITED TO LIGHT DINNER & SERVICE FOR FR. KEVIN'S NEW MINISTRY AS OUR RECTOR (IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM)



All are invited to celebrate Fr. Kevin's new ministry as our rector. We will meet in McArthur Hall at 5:30 p.m. for light dinner and refreshments and then we will gather in the Sanctuary at 6:30 p.m. for his installation service. The Rt. Rev. David Reed, Bishop Diocesan, will be presiding. For those who would like to participate virtually, we will be live-streaming the installation service from the Sanctuary beginning at 6:30 p.m. Simply click on the link below to join the live-stream.

[YOUTUBE: INSTALLATION SERVICE](#)

### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY, MONDAY, JULY 5



The church office will be closed all day on Monday, July 5, in celebration of the 4th of July. We will reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 6, 2021.

### HAPPY FATHER'S DAY: SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2021



The church staff would like to wish a  
***"Happy Father's Day"***  
to all the dads,  
granddads, and special men in your lives.

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## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS AND ORDERING



To order and dedicate your Altar Flowers, visit the church website, [ststeve.org/flowers](http://ststeve.org/flowers). You can also make your payment online through the same website form.

Dedications will be printed in the online order of worship and announced during the Sunday service of your choice. During the service, Fr. Kevin will also invite all those that have birthdays and anniversaries to join him up front for the blessing.

## MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

### COFFEE & TEA FRIENDS IS MEETING TODAY, JUNE 18 @ 9:00 AM



Ann Robertson happily reports that Coffee & Tea Friends are meeting once again! All ladies are invited to these casual social gatherings held at various local coffee houses on the first and third Friday of every month at 9:00 a.m. This Friday, June 18, the group invites you to swing by [Sip! on the Square](#) and stay as long as your schedule allows.

For more information, contact: Ann Robertson,  
[annrobertson95@gmail.com](mailto:annrobertson95@gmail.com).

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### TAKE 5: EPISODE 66 ON YOUTUBE, FACEBOOK, THURSDAY, JUNE 24



TAKE 5 Host Allen Hennig has selected the American Spiritual "City Called Heaven" in Episode 66, airing on Thursday, June 24 at 10:00 a.m. CT on YouTube and Facebook. Music Director Anne Jones shares her lovely soprano voice and narration.

"This is a sorrow song which expresses the slaves' hope to eventually reach the spiritual city in the heavens," she explains.

Recommended scripture for Episode 66 is [Revelations 21:2](#). The featured tile can be found on the nature trail at St. Stephen's. Carroll Dolezal did the basic design of the tiles found on the trail and 18 people from 11 years old to 80+ years old did the carving and painting of the entire set. The

nature trail is open to the public dawn 'til dusk seven days a week.

We hope you enjoy this music break and that it serves to lift the spirit and as a treat to



your ears and eyes.



TAKE 5 EPISODE 66 (YOUTUBE)

TAKE 5 EPISODE 66 (FACEBOOK)

TAKE 5 PLAYLIST



## BACK TO SCHOOL FIESTA IS UNDERWAY & ACCEPTING DONATIONS

*The Back to School Fiesta* is bigger and better this year! HURRAY for its return! The Fiesta, organized by the Barnabas Connection, provides necessary school supplies and a backpack to pre-registered Wimberley children in need. Area churches, like St. Stephen's, and community service organizations participate in *Back to School Fiesta* alongside hundreds of individual volunteers and contributors.

## HERE'S HOW IT IS DIFFERENT THIS YEAR

There will be two events – one for pre-registered families to receive their child's school supplies and a second event for all families to celebrate the opening of the new school year.

**PRE-REGISTERED EVENT**  
(to receive needed school supplies)  
**Saturday, August 14, 2021**  
**Barnabas Office @ 8:30 a.m.**

**Celebration for ALL Families**

(games, crafts, music, food)  
**Saturday, August 14, 2021**  
**Cypress Creek Church @ 10:30 a.m.**

### HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP NOW

- *Consider making a financial contribution.* All amounts are welcome and \$65 fills a backpack with needed supplies. Click the below to make an online donation through the church website. If you prefer writing a check, make the check payable to "St. Stephen's Episcopal Church" and remember to write "Back to School Fiesta" in the check memo line. **You can then place the check in the offering basket on: June 20, 27, and July 4.** If you prefer, checks may also be dropped off at the church office, Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. (This year, the Barnabas volunteers will be purchasing all the supplies with our financial contributions.)

#### ONLINE BACK TO SCHOOL FIESTA DONATION

- *Volunteer to help* at the Barnabas Office during the pre-registered Family Event or at the Celebration for all Families event at Cypress Creek Church.

For more information on this fantastic event, please contact: Linda Reed,  
[lindareed@austin.rr.com](mailto:lindareed@austin.rr.com).

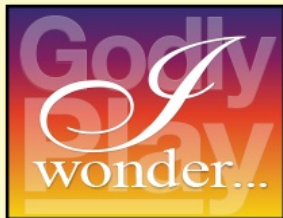
### SSEC SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND TEENS

St. Stephen's is bustling with summer activities for your children, ages 4 -12, and your teens. Here's what you need to know.



TEENS will meet twice in June following the Sunday 10:30 a.m. service.

- Sunday, June 20 @ 11:30 a.m. for Mini Golf (offsite)
- Sunday, June 27 @ 12 noon for gardening projects in the Nursery Garden and painting
- MISSION TRIP TO MEMPHIS IS CANCELED



Godly Play: ages 4-6



Kingdom Kids: ages 7-9



Mountain Movers: ages 10-12

CHILDREN ages 4-12 have *no* Sunday School classes until September 2021.

CHILDREN ages 4-12 are invited to attend *God's Garden*, a week long summer program, the first week in August 2021. (See separate article with details and web link.)





## CHILDREN, AGES 4-12, ARE INVITED TO SPEND A WEEK IN GOD'S GARDEN THIS SUMMER

St. Stephens will be debuting a new children's summer program called *God's Garden* on August 2-6, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Cost for this one-week program is \$30 per child, which includes a t-shirt, arts & crafts, and snacks. *God's Garden* will be held at St. Stephen's in the school gymnasium. We will share stories from the Bible and explore food and cultural traditions from Honduras, Cuba, Mexico, Haiti, and Ghana. We will also be exploring the importance of life-giving water for all. We invite your young family members to come and discover God's garden gifts and how we can share these gifts with one another, near and far. Check out the schedule below!

### Monday



#### *Breakfast on the beach with Jesus*

Country Focus: Honduras

Scripture: John 21:1-13 & Romans 1:8

Activities: water bottle maracas, obstacle course, music & movement

### Tuesday



#### *Lunch with Jesus and the tax collector*

Country Focus: Cuba

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10 & Mark 12:31

Activities: coffee filter butterflies, blue jello, rock water, music & movement

### Wednesday



#### *Dinner with Jesus and friends*

Country Focus: Mexico

Scripture: Luke 10:38-42 & Romans 12:16

Activities: piñata, God's eye, Noah & the Ark, bubble blowing

### Thursday



#### *Midnight snack with Jesus*

Country Focus: Haiti

Scripture: Luke 11:5-13 & Romans 15:7

Activities: quilt square, baking bread, hula-hoops, bean bags

### Friday



#### *Party with Jesus*

Country Focus: Ghana

Scripture: Luke 14:15-24 & 1 Corinthians 10:31

Activities: friendship bracelets, coco bananas, music & movement

We have limited spaces left in God's Garden. Click the below button to register your child and to pay online through the church website.

Payments may be by check as well. Make check out to "St. Stephen's Church" and drop off at the church office M-TH 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Remember to write "God's Garden" in the memo line of your check.

If you are interested in volunteering for God's Garden, contact Elisa, [elisawebster9@gmail.com](mailto:elisawebster9@gmail.com) for current volunteer needs.

**REGISTER FOR GOD'S GARDEN**

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## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A/V MINISTRY**



*If you like pressing buttons, the AV ministry is for you! We are looking for a few more members to volunteer on a rotating basis to work the AV equipment during the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Service.*

AV Coordinator, Adeline Crowley explains, "Working the equipment is very straight forward and it's not very technology-heavy. We work in pairs and training is provided."

For more information about this ministry and/or the training, contact: Adeline Crowley, [Acrowley@ststeve.org](mailto:Acrowley@ststeve.org).

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## **INVITATION TO SIGN UP AS A SUNDAY GREETER**



Do you enjoy welcoming and meeting people? Are you known for your old-fashioned hospitality? Then the Newcomer Committee needs YOU!

This committee, led by Carla Daws, seeks to invite prospective and former St. Stephen's members to join our family of worshippers. This group will be working with Fr. Kevin to plan welcome activities for new members and will also focus on getting new members involved in various church ministries and activities. A vital part of this work is performed by our Greeters at both the 8:00 a.m. and the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Services. Whether you are a former Greeter who would like to serve again, or wish to join this smiling group of welcomers for the first time, we would love to have you!

For more information about this ministry, contact: Cindy Dawson, [cdawson60@austin.rr.com](mailto:cdawson60@austin.rr.com).

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## **SAVE THE DATE FOR WOMEN'S RETREAT SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2021**



The SSEC ministry for Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is sponsoring two events in September. All women are encouraged to mark their calendars early for the Women's Retreat at Wellsprings Retreat Center in Fischer, Texas, to be held September 10-12, 2021. Following the retreat at Wellsprings, women from St. Stephen's that attended the retreat, are invited to attend a get-together at Carolyn Galle's home in Wimberley, Texas on Saturday, September 18 @ 1:00 p.m. More details will follow in future eNEWS editions.



## ST. STEPHEN'S LECTORS: A WAY TO CONNECT AND SERVE

by Charlotte Carter



As St. Stephen's moves to in-person worship on Sunday, May 23, you may be looking for ways to be more involved in Sunday and weekday worship. During the pandemic, St. Stephen's Lay Eucharistic Ministry (LEM), has been assisting as Lectors for the Sunday live-streaming and Courtyard services and also with the Tuesday Morning Prayer service. We will continue in this capacity when services are in-person.

Lay people are an integral part of worship in the Episcopal Church. Lectors read the Lections and lead Prayers of the People (POP) on

Sundays and read lessons for Morning Prayer.

St. Stephen's will be offering Lector training this Spring before we move to in-person worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 23. We will be announcing the training date and time soon.

Lector training includes:

- access to readings and POP
- preparation of readings and POP before and day of service
- procedures for announcing readings and POP
- resources available including websites
- practice reading (use of mic, pacing, and connecting with congregation).

When training is completed, new Lectors are assigned to a team and mentor.

For more information about this ministry and/or the training, contact: Charlotte Carter, [charlotteanncarter@gmail.com](mailto:charlotteanncarter@gmail.com).

*"Serving in this ministry,  
brings such a quiet inner peace and joy,  
reflecting the unity that binds us together in God's love and grace."  
Judy Seaberry (former Dean of St. Stephen's Lay Eucharist Ministry)*

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## COMMUNITY OF HOPE

***Do you need someone...***

*To listen, without judgment, to what is weighing on your heart?  
To recognize your needs and respect your rights to your feelings?  
To honor any conversation with complete confidentiality?  
To support you as you take steps of change on your journey?  
To just walk with you and let you be you?*



Each one of us, at some point or at several points in our lives, could use a "companion" to walk with us during the challenges of our journeys. A Community of Hope Lay Chaplain is someone who cares about you, will not promise miracles, will not decide for you what you should do, will not take steps for you, and will not rescue you. He or she will be available to you, support you, pray for you, and assure you that you are God's beloved. Please, if you are walking alone, invite one to join you on your path.

### JUNE/JULY COMMUNITY OF HOPE CONTACTS

Connie Maverick, [joemaverick@verizon.net](mailto:joemaverick@verizon.net)  
Sharon East, [sharoneast2@gmail.com](mailto:sharoneast2@gmail.com)

## IN THE LIFE OF SSEC

The ministry work of those at St. Stephen's continues to reach into the local community



and well beyond its physical church property. Needed donated supplies have been delivered to refugees in McAllen, Texas; high school seniors have been celebrated; and five miles of FM 3237 have been beautified. THANK YOU, ALL!!!



Photo Credit: Adeline Crowley



Photo Credit: Jon Smith



## SAVE THE DATE

### **FRI, JUNE 18**

Coffee & Tea Friends, (offsite @ Sip! on the Square), 9:00 a.m.

### **SUN, JUNE 20 (Father's Day)**

Holy Eucharist Service, Chapel, 8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Service, Sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.

Youth Activity, 11:30 a.m.

Choir Practice, Sanctuary, 12:30 p.m.

Daughters of the King, McArthur Hall, 12:30 p.m.

### **MON, JUNE 21**

Men's Prayer Group (offsite @ Wimberley Cafe), 7:30 a.m.

Cursillo Reunion Group, Courtyard, 10:30 a.m.

Monday Bible Babes (offsite @ Rene's home), 12 noon

Celebration of New Ministry: Rector Installation, Sanctuary, 6:30 p.m.





**TUES, JUNE 22**

*Morning Prayer*, Chapel, 9:00 a.m.

*Companions: Women's Grief Support*, McArthur Hall, 3:00 p.m.

*Yoga*, McArthur Hall, 4:00 p.m.

**WED, JUNE 23**

*Christ Centered Prayer*(Zoom), 5:00 p.m.

**TH, JUNE 24**

*TAKE 5* (YouTube, Facebook), 10:00 a.m.

*Bible Babes*, Nancy's house, 4:00 p.m.

**SUN, JUNE 27**

*Holy Eucharist Rite II Service*, Chapel, 8:00 a.m.

*Holy Eucharist Rite II Service*, Sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.

*Youth Activity*, Nursery Garden, 12 noon

*Choir Practice*, Sanctuary, 12:30 p.m.

**MON, JUNE 28**

*Men's Prayer Group* (offsite @ Wimberley Cafe), 7:30 a.m.

*Cursillo Reunion Group*, Courtyard, 10:30 a.m.

*Monday Bible Babes* (offsite @ Rene's home), 12 noon

*Vestry Meeting*, McArthur Hall, 6:00 p.m.

**TUES, JUNE 29**

*Morning Prayer*, Courtyard, 9:00 a.m.

*Companions: Women's Grief Support*, McArthur Hall, 3:00 p.m.

*Yoga*, McArthur Hall, 4:00 p.m.

**WED, JUNE 30**

*Christ Centered Prayer*(Zoom), 5:00 p.m.

**TH, JULY 1**

*TAKE 5* (YouTube, Facebook), 10:00 a.m.

**FRI, JULY 2**

*Coffee & Tea Friends* (offsite @ Sip! on the Square), 9:00 a.m.

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

*(articles, photos, graphics)*

**WEDNESDAYS, 12 NOON**

Jackie McFadden, Communications Director, [eeant@mac.com](mailto:eeant@mac.com)

Visit our Website



[VISITORS](#)

**Church Office open M-TH 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.**