

HANDY ZOOM & WEB LINKS



ANNUAL MEETING (Zoom), January 31, 2021, 11:45 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8531233729?pwd=ZWY3V0Y2c3JBQmNvUWpTY0lFaGVcdz09>

Adult Sunday School Class (Zoom) "The Lord & His Prayer," Sundays, 9:15 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87309759306?pwd=QVZGZW1Zk1JQRW1TNmVlZkNlVUhh3QT09>

Altar Flower Orders

ststeve.org/flowers

Anniversary (Wedding) Announcements

st.steve.org/anniversary

Birthday Announcements

ststeve.org/birthday

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84358750653?pwd=VG85c3BQQWdualpjZnBmSFZGTzY5Zz09>

Daily Meditations

ststeve.org/meditations

Discovery Class (Zoom), Saturday, March 6, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8531233729?pwd=ZWY3V0Y2c3JBQmNvUWpTY0lFaGVcdz09>

Kingdom Kids/Mountain Movers Class (Zoom), Sundays, 9:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86394109047?pwd=SWtEaVlwSVhTeWs4N1A0SHY3Q2x0dz09>

Monday Bible Babes (Zoom & Courtyard), Mondays, 12:00 noon

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89385259800?pwd=SWtqU05La29tMXRrQU1ZWkpsUzI4dz09>

Online Order of Worship for Sunday 10:30 a.m. service

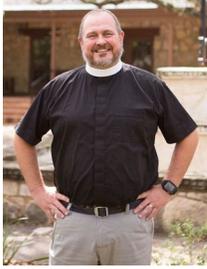
ststeve.org/order

Teen Sunday School (Zoom), Sundays, 5:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86839472914?pwd=WkxkRXRldGN4YnhudFJtbU5PRVY0QT09>

COLUMNS

Three Virtuous Practices to Share by The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert



Dear St. Stephen's Family,

I imagine most of you, like me, have experienced the past 10 months as a whirlwind of change. The effects of the pandemic have been felt throughout all facets of our lives. In many ways, we have faced never before seen obstacles, heightened anxiety, real loss and grief.

Throughout this time, and looking toward the future, it is imperative that we maintain some of the virtues necessary to ensure prosperity and safety for ourselves and the communities that we hold dear. I would like

to share with you three of those virtuous living practices that I have been focusing on lately: flexibility, patience, and courage.

FLEXIBILITY

Jesus says in the Gospel of John, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit." I have found during this pandemic that change can occur without warning and very fast. The ways "we have done things" may not always be the best option at any given time. Our normal rhythms of church have been disrupted in various ways, and we are called to live into those disruptions with a great amount of flexibility at the forefront. God is doing marvelous things in the life of St. Stephen's, even within those changes. I truly believe that God is leading us to be a part of the vine that bears much fruit; and often times we have to be open to the flexibility of those changes that produce the abundant fruits of God.

PATIENCE

The Apostle Paul writes in his Epistle to the Romans, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." This may be one of the more difficult of the three practices for me. I would give anything to have all our ministries and worship services be back up and running; sharing in the complete life of the parish with all of you here at St. Stephen's. Having patience during difficult times is simply a hard virtue to follow. Although, patience is definitely what we need at this time. We have come so far, with hope and through prayer, and are so close to reaping the benefits of our patience and safety for our beloved community.

COURAGE

This past Sunday I encouraged all of us to find creative ways to share with one another our stories and epiphanies. I believe this to be of especially paramount importance during this time of pandemic and isolation. In order to do this, we must have the courage to step outside our comfort zones and be vulnerable in different ways than we are normally accustomed. I am a huge fan of the sociologist and author Brene Brown who says, "Vulnerability sounds like truth and feels like courage. Truth and courage aren't always comfortable, but they're never weakness." I recognize the necessity to courageously be present in our endeavors as a church. In so doing, the ties that bind us together will be strengthened and our community will continue to thrive.

I am hopeful for all that awaits us in the months to come. With flexibility, patience, and courage we will be able to see our way forward in a new light. Once we are able to safely gather in building and reconvene our numerous ministries, these virtues we have practiced will provide significant value to our community. I pray that you continue to be blessed by God's abundant love and grace; and, always know, that I am available to you and your family.

Peace,

The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert



ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 @ 11:45 AM

100% Virtual on Zoom!

ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM

Sunday, January 31, 2021 @ 11:45 a.m.

Fr. Kevin and Senior Warden Nancy Cooke Jenkins remind us to make plans now to attend the virtual annual meeting on Zoom, Sunday, January 31, 2021 at 11:45 a.m. ***They invite you to watch the 10:30 a.m. Live Stream Holy Eucharist on that day. Fr. Kevin will deliver his Rector's Report in lieu of the sermon during this 10:30 a.m. service.***

There will be NO 8:00 a.m. nor 11:30 a.m. service held on January 31, 2021.

Since the annual meeting starts around lunch time, we also invite you to fix yourselves a bite to eat and feel free to enjoy your food whenever you are hungry while Zooming during the annual meeting. The link to Zoom into the Annual Meeting will be published in each church newsletter leading up to the meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8531233729?pwd=ZWY3V0Y2c3JBQmNvUWpTY0lFaGVCDz09>

We have much to share at the meeting including short video reports from many of our fellow ministries: Adult Education, Altar Guild, A/V, Bible Babes, Brothers of St. Andrew, Cancer Support, Christ Centered Prayer, Community of Hope, Companions, Facilities Committee, Family & Youth Ministry, Great Generations, Lay Ministry, Meditation Writers, Music Ministry, Roadside Cleanup, Santa, School, Trailblazers, and Yoga. With these sneak previews all in one place at one time, it's almost like having a ministry fair! No matter how long you have been attending St. Stephen's, these video snapshots will likely reveal something new to you.

We will also be recognizing the outgoing Vestry and celebrating the arrival of the new Vestry members and receiving the latest financial and budgetary information from our Treasurer. After the meeting, we will also post written reports on the church website, ststeve.org/records.

The annual meeting is a little more than a week away, and we are eager to share the moment of "what was" and "what will be" with you.



TWO HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II SERVICES TO CHOOSE

Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Earlier this week you received an e-mail from St. Stephen's notifying you that for the time being due to the colder weather, we will forgo the 8:00 a.m. Courtyard Holy Eucharist Sunday Service. As soon as the warmer spring weather arrives, we will resume the 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Courtyard Service.

In the meantime, we would like to invite you to attend either of the two Sunday services. At 10:30 a.m. we offer the Live Stream Holy Eucharist on YouTube and Facebook (no in-person, no in-building). At 11:30 a.m. we offer the Courtyard Holy Eucharist Service, weather permitting. *(No 11:30 a.m. service will be the day of the annual meeting, January 31, 2021.)* Both the 10:30 a.m. and the 11:30 a.m. services follow the Holy Eucharist Rite II and have an identical sermon.

We will be sure to alert you when the 8:00 a.m. service makes its welcome return in the Spring.

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JAN 24, 2021

You can now download Sunday's Order of Worship for the 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Live Stream straight from your Friday church newsletter. Look for the link in the listing of handy zoom and web links at the beginning of each church newsletter. It is listed as "Online Order of Worship." The order of worship also contains the YouTube and Facebook links for the live stream service.



TWO CHURCH STAFF CELEBRATE THEIR 1 YEAR WORK ANNIVERSARY



Both Administrative Assistant, Lydia Baese, and Family & Youth Minister, Elisa Webster, celebrate their one year work anniversary with St. Stephen's this month! Congratulations, Lydia and Elisa. We couldn't imagine St. Stephen's without you, or how we ever got along before either of you came into our lives here at St. Stephen's. Your help over the past year has been invaluable.

BISHOP TO VISIT ST. STEPHEN'S ON SUNDAY MARCH 21, 2021



The Right Reverend David Reed, Bishop Diocesan of West Texas will be with us at St. Stephen's on Sunday, March 21, 2021. The Bishop will preside and preach at the 10:30 Live Stream Holy Eucharist Sunday Service, as well as administer the sacrament of Confirmation and preside at the rites of Reception and Reaffirmation of Faith for those that complete the upcoming Saturday, [March 6 Discovery Class](#). To register for the March 6 class, contact, the church office, office@ststeve.org.

The sacrament of Confirmation is a mature, public reaffirmation of the Christian faith and of the promises made at one's baptism. It is administered by a bishop because bishops serve as symbols of the wider Church and its continuity throughout the centuries. We look forward to Bishop Reed's visit and upcoming administration of the sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, March 21, 2021.

INVITATION TO OPT-IN FOR TEXT ALERTS FROM SSEC



You are invited to sign up for text alerts from St. Stephen's Church. This service is optional and will allow you to be notified of cancelations of services and activities due to inclement weather. For those that have already signed up, there are no additional steps to take on your part.

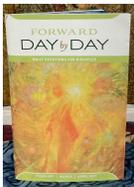
If you would like to sign up, follow the steps below. Please note that you may opt-out of receiving texts from the church at any time.

To Opt in: Text ALERT to 22300

To Opt out: Text STOP to 22300 (to stop receiving text alerts)

If you have questions, contact the church office, office@ststeve.org.

NEW DAY BY DAY DEVOTIONALS BOOK AVAILABLE FOR PICKUP



Just in! The new "Day by Day" devotionals for February, March, and April 2021 have arrived and are ready for pickup. New copies are kept in a box outside of the chapel.

CAMP SUNDAY & SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY ON THEIR WAY

Sunday, February 7, 2021



HANG ONTO YOUR HATS! Sunday, February 7 has a LOT going on. In addition to holding our regular lineup of worship services and classes, we will be celebrating *Souper Bowl Sunday & Camp Sunday*.

Donations of non-perishable pantry items have been steadily arriving for our collection to Wimberley Crisis Bread Basket. Melissa Odell, *Souper Bowl Sunday's* coordinator, invites you to continue dropping off donations between now and the culmination of our drive on Souper Bowl Sunday, February 7. You can see the list of most needed items at: ststeve.org/events. Monetary donations are accepted as well. Be sure to make the check out to "St. Stephen's Episcopal Church" and write "Crisis Bread Basket" in the memo line. Checks may be mailed to: St. Stephen's Church, 6000-A FM 3237, Wimberley, TX 78676. If you prefer making a donation by credit card, visit the church

website: www.ststeve.org/online-giving and select "one time gift" in the pull down list; be sure to type "Crisis Bread Basket" in the note field.



And, don't forget about Camp Sunday! It's happening on Sunday, February 7, too. This is the day that we take up an offering to go toward camp scholarships. To make things easier this year, the first week in February, we will be mailing out the special offering envelopes directly to your home address. You are welcome to use the special envelope offering to make a donation to the camp scholarship fund and either mail it back to the church or drop it in the offering basket at the 11:30 a.m. Courtyard Holy Eucharist Service. You always have the option, too, of making a donation by credit card through the church website, www.ststeve.org/online-giving.

Be sure to select "one time gift" in the pull down list and specify "Camp Scholarship" in the note field.

Camp Sunday is also a great day to sign up your family for some beach time and fellowship. While spots last, we encourage families, if you would like to be with other St. Stephen's families, to **register for Session 9 of Mustang Island Family Camp, held Thursday, July 29 through Sunday, August 1.**

DWTX, Episcopal Diocese of West Texas, has all the details for you regarding: [Mustang Island](#), [Camp Capers](#), and [Duncan Park](#) on their website, including registration.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES



FAMILIES GET NEW BIBLES

Family & Youth Minister Elisa Webster reports that St. Stephen's School recently donated copies of a beautiful full color children's bible to the church. Elisa has since hand delivered these straight into the hands of our children and youth, who have been using these in their Kingdom Kids (ages 7-9) and Mountain Movers (ages 10-12) Sunday classes at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom.

For more information, contact: Elisa Webster, elisawebster9@gmail.com.



TAKE 5: JANUARY 28, 2021 EPISODE

TAKE 5 Host Allen Hennig presents "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" on Thursday, January 28 at 10:00 a.m. CST on Facebook and YouTube.

"This hymn is part of a much larger work, Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op 125. It made its debut in Vienna on May 7, 1824," explains Allen. "This symphony is considered Ludwig von Beethoven's greatest work, and one of the great supreme works in musical history."

We hope you enjoy this five minute music break for the mind and spirit.

[TAKE 5 PLAY LIST](#)

YOGA CLASSES ON HIATUS

Due to the now colder winter weather, Tuesday outdoor yoga classes at St. Stephen's are on hiatus. As soon as COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and classes are able to

resume indoors or springtime weather is conducive to resume in-person classes outdoors, we will post this information in the newsletter, on the [church web calendar](#), and on Facebook.

In the meantime, we invite you to visit the St. Stephen's YouTube Yoga Playlist, which contains 10 chair yoga routines and 10 floor yoga routines led by Carla Daws, Yoga Ministry leader. These recordings are available to you 24/7.



CHAIR YOGA PLAYLIST

FLOOR YOGA PLAYLIST

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.

JANUARY COMMUNITY OF HOPE CONTACTS

Sharon East, sharoneast2@gmail.com
Connie Maverick, joemaverick@verizon.net

IN THE LIFE OF SSEC

Souper Bowl Sunday coordinator, Melissa Odell, thanks everyone who has donated thus far. She will continue to deliver your donations bi-weekly to the Wimberley Crisis Bread Basket. You may drop off the non-perishable pantry items in the bins outside McArthur Hall. Last day for donations is Souper Bowl Sunday, February 7.



SAVE THE DATE

SUN, JAN 24

Kingdom Kids & Mountain Movers(Zoom), 9:00 a.m.

Denton Adult Bible Class (Zoom), 9:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Sunday Service (Livestream no in-person), 10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Courtyard, 11:30 a.m., *weather permitting*



MON, JAN 25

Bible Babes, courtyard & Zoom, 12 noon

TUES, JAN 26

Morning Prayer, courtyard, 9:00 a.m., *weather permitting*

Companions, courtyard, 3:00 p.m., *weather permitting*

WED, JAN 27

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

TH, JAN 28

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

Bible Babes, Nancy's patio or Zoom, 4:00 p.m.

SUN, JAN 31

Kingdom Kids & Mountain Movers(Zoom), 9:00 a.m.

Denton Adult Bible Class (Zoom), 9:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Sunday Service (Livestream no in-person), 10:30 a.m.

ANNUAL MEETING (ZOOM), 11:45 a.m.

SUN, FEB 7: CAMP SUNDAY & SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Kingdom Kids & Mountain Movers(Zoom), 9:00 a.m.

Denton Adult Bible Class (Zoom), 9:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Sunday Service (Livestream no in-person), 10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Courtyard, 11:30 a.m., *weather permitting*

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

(articles, photos, graphics)

WEDNESDAYS, 12 NOON

Jackie McFadden, Communications Manager, eeant@mac.com

Visit our Website



[ANNIVERSARIES](#)

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[FLOWERS](#)

[VISITORS](#)

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