

St. Stephen's EPISCOPAL CHURCH Wimberley

eNEWS

July 23, 2021



Altar Flower Orders

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=Z25MdEpheXh2YzJINzNaTU9TSTgwZz09>

Daily Meditations

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

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

ststeve.org/sunday

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

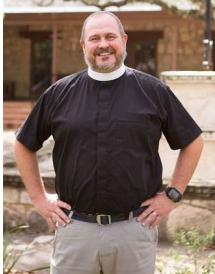
COLUMNS

LETTER FROM THE RECTOR: REMAINING DILIGENT

By The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert

Dear St. Stephen's,

It's hard to believe that the summer is coming to an end. Exciting times are ahead for us. In less than a month, our children and youth will begin a new school year, church programs will start back up, and before we know it, the fall season will be here. I know I'm getting ahead of myself, but if the first part of the summer is any indication, the later part will go by just as quickly.



As we approach our fall program lineup in the next few weeks, it is imperative that we continue to be diligent regarding our safety and responsibility regarding pandemic procedures. I have been extremely delighted by the thoughtfulness and responsibility of our beloved church community during the past year and half that we've lived within the pandemic. Our community has made great strides to bring back some normalcy to our life together, to be sure. With that said, it is important to recognize that we remain in the midst of this pandemic. I

urge all of our members to remain diligent regarding pandemic procedures. If you have not yet received a vaccination, please do so. The CDC has recently urged folks to continue to wear masks whether vaccinated or not, especially for those with compromised immune systems.

St. Stephen's will continue what we have been doing to maintain safety and responsibility regarding the pandemic. This will remain until we hear otherwise from the Diocesan office. By remaining diligent in our procedures to maintain the health and safety of our community, my hope is that we continue to head in the right direction regarding decreasing case numbers of the virus. If the church office receives additional protocols from the Diocesan office, further communications will be forth coming.

Shortly after my arrival at St. Stephen's, back in September 2021, we instituted weekly Morning Prayer services. We have continued to enjoy these services, gathering as a community in the midst of the work week. I have found these services to be helpful opportunities to be in worship together. And now I believe this particular service has run its course accomplishing what it intended to provide. I recognize that with the beginning of regular programs in the church community, it is a good time to switch from a Morning Prayer service to a Healing Eucharist. Therefore, our last Tuesday Morning Prayer service will be held on Tuesday, August 31. The first Healing Eucharist will be held on Wednesday, September 22. The new service will be held each week at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. I hope and pray members of St. Stephen's will utilize this great opportunity to gather for healing prayers for oneself or someone they love and to celebrate communion together.

I continue to be overjoyed by the compassion and energy that exudes from our beloved community. I am blessed every day to be a member of this great church. So, thank you one and all for your love and commitment to St. Stephen's. May God bless you this day and always.

*Peace,
The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert*

NEWS

UPDATE ON MOBILE LIFETOUCH CHURCH DIRECTORY



You may have discovered that the mobile directory has been down in recent weeks. We have an update for you. LifeTouch, the company that we used for our church photo directory, has permanently closed its church directory department, and therefore, our mobile directory that is tied to this information is no longer accessible. In the meantime, we are researching new options to determine the feasibility of a new mobile directory and app. We will keep you posted through the church newsletter. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

ONE COFFEE HOUR ONLY BEGINNING SUNDAY, JULY 25



Beginning Sunday, July 25, we will offer *one coffee hour only*, to be held after the 10:30 a.m. service. All are welcome to stop by McArthur Hall after the 10:30 a.m. service for cookies & coffee and to visit with familiar and new faces.

CHURCH & SCHOOL WIDE CAMPUS CLEANUP: SAT, AUG 14



All are invited to help prepare the school and church campuses for the upcoming St. Stephen's School Open House and for the special Back to School Worship Service. We'll meet the morning of Saturday, August 14 to get our assignments. Watch your next newsletter for more details.

JOIN US AUGUST 15 FOR THE SPECIAL BACK TO SCHOOL WORSHIP SERVICE



On Sunday, August 15, the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the Sanctuary will look very different. (*The 8:00 a.m. worship service in the Chapel will follow the regular order of worship for a Holy Eucharist Rite II service.*)

At the 10:30 a.m. service on August 15, we will dedicate this service to the celebration of the return to the school year.

Although the service will be shorter, only 30 minutes, it will contain Holy Eucharist. The Half-time Band will be performing

kid favorites and both teachers and students will be invited up to the altar to have their lesson plans and backpacks blessed. During the same service we will commission the new school teachers and school board members. Please note that we will not live stream the Sunday, August 15 worship service. It will be in-person only.

Immediately following the service, all are invited to grab hotdogs and watermelon slices. This BBQ is sponsored by the church Vestry and the school board. School families will have an opportunity to meet their teachers and church families will have an opportunity to tour the school during its open house. There will be more surprises in store, and we hope you will be able to join in the celebration and festive worship.

MORNING PRAYER OFFERED THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2021



Morning Prayer will continue at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel on Tuesday mornings through the month of August. Our last Morning Prayer will be held Tuesday, August 31, 2021.

Beginning in September, the Healing Service will return.

(See separate article for more details.)

HEALING PRAYER RETURNS ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2021



This fall brings with it the much anticipated return of the St. Stephen's Healing Eucharist. This service will be held weekly on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and will last 45 minutes. On the third Wednesday of the month, we encourage you to stay after the service and to head over to McArthur Hall for "Great

Generations."

The Healing Service will be held in the Chapel and begins in silence as we take our seat in the pews in prayerful consideration of God's saving Grace and Love. You can expect this service to contain a shared homily and a laying on of hands and anointing. Fr. Kevin will invite persons seeking anointing to come forward to the altar rail, at which time they are to provide their name and any particular request for prayer. Fr. Kevin will lay hands upon the person with prayer and anoint the person with oil. Communion and a Blessing will follow, prior to dismissal.

The Episcopal Church's understanding is that through the laying on of hands and the administering of the sacrament of unction (anointing of oil) God's healing grace is bestowed upon the sick and needy. This is so, with the full knowledge that God's healing and grace is available for all conditions of humanity.

We invite you to join us on Wednesdays for this healing service beginning, Wednesday, September 22 @ 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

DWTX CONGREGATIONAL GATHERING SEPTEMBER 25, 2021



EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE
of West Texas

The Rt. Rev. David Reed, Bishop of West Texas, has invited clergy and laity to attend a gathering to both celebrate being together as we re-emerge and regroup from the COVID pandemic and to hold conversation about ways we can live and serve faithfully going forward.

St. Stephen's will be part of the group attending the gathering on Saturday, September 25 at St. John's Episcopal Church in New Braunfels, Texas. Fr. Kevin and the Vestry will be attending. All are invited. If carpooling is needed, contact Jeannetta Watson, jwatson@ststeve.org.

To register for the DWTX Congregational Gathering, visit:
<https://www.dwtx.org/events/we-will-continue-gatherings>

CURRENT SCHEDULE FOR 2021/2022 BAPTISM DATES & NEXT DISCOVERY CLASS



Fr. Kevin has announced the following dates for baptism and the next *Discovery Class*. Contact the church office, office@ststeve.org, if you would like to be included.

September 26, 2021

November 7, 2021

January 9, 2022

The next *Discovery Class* will be offered on Saturday, November 6, 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. For more information on baptism and the *Discovery Class*, visit the church website, www.ststeve.org/baptism.

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING TO BE HELD AUGUST 28, 2021

Recognizing how integral Lay people are to worship in the Episcopal Church, we are dedicated to

delivering the training that you will need to become comfortable and confident under the guidance of our new rector Fr. Kevin Schubert.

We are thrilled to announce, "The wait is over!" Fr. Kevin is eager to gather all current Lay ministers and recruits to review the new changes, adaptations, expectations, and duties of the Lay Ministers. We invite you to attend the upcoming training.

**Liturgical Ministry Training for
Lectors, Intercessors, Lay Eucharistic
Ministers, Acolytes, Ushers
Saturday, August 28, 2021
10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. (includes lunch)**



If you are a new recruit and wish to sign up for the August 28 training or need more information, contact: Charlotte Carter, Dean of the Lay Eucharistic Ministry, charlotteanncarter@gmail.com. Current Lay ministers should mark their calendars now and plan on attending this very useful, pertinent, and well-laid out training.

The church website, www.ststeve.org/serving-on-sunday, also contains helpful information on the Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Lay Readers, and Lectors, including a recently published feature.

*"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)*

TAKE 5: EPISODE 71 ON YOUTUBE, FACEBOOK, THURSDAY, JULY 29



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 71 \(YouTube\)](#)

[TAKE 5 EPISODE 71
\(Facebook\)](#)

[TAKE 5 PLAYLIST](#)

COMPANIONS (WIDOW GRIEF SUPPORT) WILL NOT MEET IN AUGUST

The Companions (Widow Grief Support) ministry will not meet in August. This ministry will return at its regular day and time in September. Please note that the ministry will meet Tuesday, July 27 @ 3:00 p.m. in McArthur Hall.



For more information on this ministry, visit the church website,
www.ststeve.org/ministries.

LOCATION CHANGE FOR GOD'S GARDEN SUMMER PROGRAM



God's Garden, the new children's summer week-long program for ages 4-12, will now meet in McArthur Hall on August 2-6, 2021. **Note that this is a new location.**

At the time of publication, there were four spots left. If you would like to register your young family member and to read more about the week's schedule, see below links. A preview of the week's schedule of activities is also below.

[TAKE 5 Video on God's Garden](#)

[God's Garden webpage](#)

[Registration form](#)

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

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP MEETS 2ND WEDNESDAYS @ 11:30 AM

The Wimberley Area Cancer Support Group, sponsored by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, is meeting once again on the second Wednesday of every month. If you have had cancer now or experienced it in the past, we invite you to bring a brown bag lunch to the Wimberley Chamber/Visitors Center conference room. Meetings begin at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting will be held:



**Wednesday, August 11, 2021 @ 11:30 a.m.
Wimberley Chamber/Visitors Center in the conference room**

These meetings are an ideal place to relax, catch up, and talk with others who share or have shared your journey with cancer. Current COVID guidelines of the Dioceses of West Texas are in effect. Fully vaccinated persons are not required to wear a mask or to be socially distanced from one another. Unvaccinated persons are required to wear a mask and to be socially distanced from one another for indoor gatherings.

Ministry leaders Sharon East, sharoneast2@gmail.com, and Dave Boyd, davsimpboyd@gmail.com, look forward to meeting and seeing you soon!

SAVE THE DATE FOR FIRST FRUITS; DONOR ONLINE FORM AVAILABLE



The First Fruits 2021 Wine & Dinner Pairing Fundraiser is back and scheduled for Sunday, October 24. This year's event will be held at Old Glory Ranch from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Please save the date for this wonderful event.

SEATS: \$100 (per adult) with children/students FREE with an Adult Purchase.

New this year will be our first ever online auction. Attention, donors! You can now use the online donor form to submit information.

ststeve.org/forms/first_fruits

If you would like to help cover the costs of the event, please consider sponsorship, and contact Jeannetta Watson, jwatson@ststeve.org.

SPONSORSHIP: \$250 - 1 ticket, \$500 - 2 tickets, \$1,000 - 4 tickets

Proceeds from *First Fruits* are used to support the Church and its mission. More details about this year's event are coming, but mark the date on your calendar now!!!

A/V VOLUNTEER TRAINING SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, AUG 28



Adeline Crowley, A/V Coordinator, is holding a training on how to run the A/V equipment for the Sunday worship service livestream. The training will take place on Saturday, August 28, 2021 in the Sanctuary beginning at 11:00 a.m. If you have questions and/or would like to RSVP, contact Adeline, acrowley@ststeve.org.

Once trained, A/V volunteers will work in pairs and be scheduled once a month. All new volunteers will have an opportunity to shadow experienced team members.



BACK TO SCHOOL FIESTA'S TWO UPCOMING AUGUST EVENTS

The Back to School Fiesta is bigger and better this year and well underway! Thank you to all who have donated thus far, whether online through the church website or by dropping donations into the offertory baskets during our three Sunday collections. Two checks, totaling \$3,065, have now been delivered to Barnabas.

As you will read below in the thank you letter, Barnabas is appreciative of all that St. Stephens' has done this year and in the past. Also, you will find the two upcoming dates for the August *Back to School Fiesta* activities. Remember one event is for those pre-registered to receive their needed school supplies, and the other event is a community celebration with no RSVP required. Our very own Family & Youth Minister Elisa Webster will have an information booth at the community event, so drop by and see her!

The Fiesta, organized by the Barnabas Connection, provides necessary school supplies and backpacks 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.

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.

Dear Fr. Kevin and the congregation,
On behalf of those we serve, thank you so much for your recent generous donation in support of the kids for BACK TO SCHOOL FIESTA. You are providing not only material things but, more importantly, giving them a sense of normalcy and dignity. Your steadfast partnership, friendship and commitment to helping others means the world to us.

IN GRATITUDE,
Laurie Settlemens
Board member - Barnabas Connection



OUTREACH EFFORTS UNDERWAY AT ST. STEPHEN'S

St. Stephens debuted a new worship service this past spring. This 30 minute Holy Eucharist service held the second Sunday of the month at 2:00 p.m. is followed by an outreach activity with various initiatives. We have come to call this, *Mission Sunday!* School and church families are encouraged to come and the general public is always welcome, too!

In addition to Mission Sundays, Fr. Kevin announced over the summer that St. Stephen's would be making regular trips down to South Texas to continue our church's new partnership with Mercy Chefs. These mission outreach trips to help provide meals and supplies to immigrants occur every 6-8 weeks. If you would like more information and/or would like to join the next trip, contact Anita McNabb, anitamcnabb@ymail.com.

As a recap, see below for the lineup of our local outreach service initiatives, which will start up again this September 2021.

September 12: Food Drive

October 10: Stewardship of Creation - Trees & WAG (Wimberley Adoption Group)

November 14: Health Community Event

December 12: St. Stephen's Santa

WOMEN'S RETREAT @ WELLSPRINGS, SEPTEMBER 9-12, 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 Blanco, Texas, to be held September 9-12, 2021. Cost is \$30. A sneak peek into the activities at this relaxing weekend of fellowship include: yoga with Carla Daws, music with JoAnn Seeberger, and movie night! 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.

COFFEE & TEA FRIENDS MEETS 1st & 3rd FRIDAYS @ 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. 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.

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.

JULY COMMUNITY OF HOPE CONTACTS

Sharon East, sharoneast2@gmail.com
Nancy Cooke-Jenkins, nancycookejenkins@gmail.com

IN THE LIFE OF SSEC

Summer is whizzing by, but before we leave it behind, we would like to share some photos of our summer's first half. We said goodbye to our friends Joe and Connie Maverick and took up a collection for Amigos de Jesus, which has raised \$595! A group of volunteers accompanied Fr. Kevin to McAllen, Texas to help deliver supplies to refugees. Bishop David Reed presided over Fr. Kevin's new rector installation service, and we were treated to a rousing homily by Fr. Kevin's friend, The Rev. Patrick Saunders.





SAVE THE DATE

SUN, JULY 25

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

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

ECW Board Meeting, Meeting Room 1, 11:30 a.m.

Choir Practice, Sanctuary, 12:00 noon



MON, JULY 26

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, JULY 27

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, JULY 28

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

TH, JULY 29

Family Camp (offsite @ Mustang Island)

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

FRI, JULY 30

Family Camp (offsite @ Mustang Island)

SAT, JULY 31

Family Camp (offsite @ Mustang Island)

SUN, AUG 1

Family Camp (offsite @ Mustang Island)
Holy Eucharist Rite II Service, Chapel, 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II Service, Sanctuary, 10:30 a.m.
Choir Practice, Sanctuary, 12:00 noon

MON, AUG 2

Men's Prayer Group (offsite @ Wimberley Cafe), 7:30 a.m.
God's Garden Children's Program, McArthur Hall, 9:00 a.m.
Cursillo Reunion Group, Courtyard, 10:30 a.m.
Monday Bible Babes (offsite @ Rene's home), 12 noon

TUES, AUG 3

God's Garden Children's Program, McArthur Hall, 9:00 a.m.
Morning Prayer, Courtyard, 9:00 a.m.
Yoga, McArthur Hall, 4:00 p.m.

WED, AUG 4

God's Garden Children's Program, McArthur Hall, 9:00 a.m.
Stewardship Committee Meeting, Rector Office, 10:00 a.m.
Christ Centered Prayer (Zoom), 5:00 p.m.

TH, AUG 5

God's Garden Children's Program, McArthur Hall, 9:00 a.m.
TAKE 5 (YouTube, Facebook), 10:00 a.m.

FRI, AUG 6

God's Garden Children's Program, McArthur Hall, 9:00 a.m.
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

[Visit our Website](#)



[**VISITORS**](#)

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