

Senior Warden News by Nancy Cooke-Jenkins



Since we have not been around campus in a while, we have not seen the evidence that the maintenance team continues to perform to keep our grounds and buildings in good working order.

One of the requirements the school had to attend to for accreditation of a day care facility was the construction of a fence around the day care's play area. This has been done, as has the repair of a parapet cap on one of the school buildings. Flooring has also been installed in classrooms 9 and 10, complying with "back to school" requirements.

Looking around the grounds, you would notice that a dead tree has been removed from the nature trail and new signage has been erected at the trail to highlight the additions from our landscaping grant. The courtyard steps and walkways have been cleaned, as well as countless other repairs and maintenance chores.

There is a saying that indicates "nobody thinks about housework until somebody doesn't do it." The same can be said about maintaining buildings and grounds.

Thanks to the hard work of our Facility Director Mike Williamson and our sextons Lonnie Brown and Brad McClusky, which is all overseen by our Junior Warden Todd Schmidt, we do not have that problem. The next time you see one of them, let them know how much their efforts are appreciated.

*"You'll never find a rainbow, if you're always looking down."
- Charlie Chaplin*

NEWS

INVITING PET & PARISHIONER PHOTO & NARRATIVE VIGNETTES



Whether you have a fish, duck, rabbit, horse, cat, dog, or other animal family member, we wish to invite you to share your pet's photo and narrative vignette. Our pets are undeniably, truly, special members of our families, and even more appreciated now than ever as we find ourselves spending more time at home during COVID-19. Our pets offer companionship and unconditional love and in the Episcopal Church we believe they are gifts from God.

St. Stephen's has a history of recognizing our pet family members whether in a pet

blessing ceremony or occasionally even including their singing during services. Since mid-March when the world began self-quarantining, we find ourselves hugging our pets even more and perhaps even saving them a seat at the virtual Sunday Service viewed from our home computers, laptops, iPads, and smart devices. As a fun and appreciative tribute to all the animals in our lives, over the course of several eNEWS editions, we'll be featuring stories and photos about our parishioners and their pets.

To contribute a photo and/or narrative pet vignette, e-mail your submission to: Jackie McFadden, eeant@mac.com, or set up a time for her to interview you by phone, whichever is easier for you. Submissions should be sent between now and Friday, July 31, 2020.

TRADING CARDS

If you would like your pet's photo included in the trading cards that Family & Youth Minister Elisa Webster is making, let Jackie, eeant@mac.com know.



Phil Muth and his dogs do their version of Passing the Peace during the virtual Sunday Service.



Traveling all the way from South Africa, Elisa Webster's dog, Poppet, settles into life in Wimberley.



Izzie, Carla Daws' cat, settles in to watch the Sunday Service.

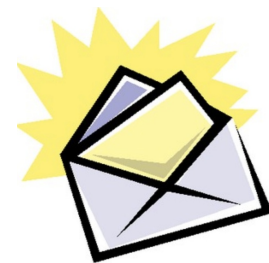
SPECIAL ENVELOPE OFFERINGS HELPING THE COMMUNITY & SSEC

In a few short months, the parishioners of St. Stephen's have raised thousands to help offset the immediate needs in our community and church. THANK YOU, everyone, for your generosity.

\$11,789 worth of help!

Here's a re-cap of how much was raised from Easter through Father's Day in the special envelope offerings.

- \$6,795, Easter Special Envelope Offering, toward budget for special envelopes income
- \$1,610, Memorial Day Special Envelope Offering, sent to Wimberley Crisis Bread Basket
- \$3,384, Father's Day Special Envelope Offering, sent to Back to School Fiesta (See separate *"Back to School Fiesta"* article in this issue of eNEWS.)



NEW ORDER OF SSEC FACE MASKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

The church office has just received a third shipment of SSEC face masks. These are now ready for purchase and will be mailed to your home. Please e-mail the church office, office@ststeve.org, to

let them know how many to reserve for your mailing. Face masks are \$10 each. Please add an additional \$2 per order to cover the shipping charge of mailing your order to one physical address.

To pay for the face masks, you may mail in a check made out to "St. Stephen's Church" with "face mask" written in the memo line. Mail checks to: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 6000-A FM 3237, Wimberley, TX 78676.

You may also pay for the masks online by using the [tithe.ly form on the church website](#).



OUR THANK YOU PRESENT TO KAREN MADE BY CARROLL DOLEZAL

In the last issue of *eNEWS*, we printed the thank you letter from Karen Morris for the gifts that St. Stephen's sent in honor of her recent ordination into the Sacred Order of Deacons. Did you know, however, that there was one more special going away present for Karen? Carroll Dolezal painted a beautiful scene of the St. Stephen's Chapel for Karen to be able to take a piece of St. Stephen's with her. Our thanks to Carroll for this thoughtful gift's creation and given on behalf of the congregation.



VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR HELD SUNDAY, JULY 12 & 19 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING VIRTUAL SERVICE

Virtual Coffee Hour will continue all summer long through Zoom and immediately follows the conclusion of the virtual 10:30 a.m. CDT Sunday Service. Zoom instructions for Coffee Hour are included in the same e-mail that you receive Sunday mornings with the YouTube and Facebook links to the Sunday Service.

Virtual Coffee Hour is held every Sunday of the month except for the last Sunday. The last Sunday of the month is reserved for the children's equivalent of coffee hour, called *Donut Sunday*.



If it's been awhile since you've seen the faces of your church family, this is the perfect and safest way to be with them without even leaving the comfort of your home. Or, perhaps, you have a question that came up during the thought-provoking sermon or a comment that you wanted to pass along. If so, Fr. Phil will be waiting for us to join him at the next virtual coffee hour. You just never know who else will show up!

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR SUNDAYS July 12 and 19

NEXT DONUT SUNDAY, KIDS COFFEE HOUR, SUNDAY, JULY 26, 12 noon

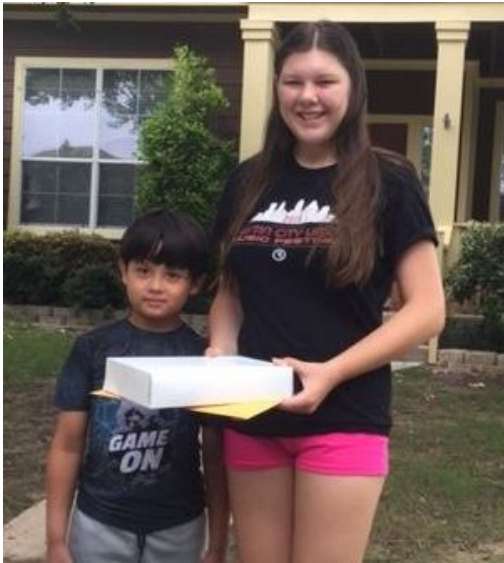
If you missed out on our first-ever virtual kid's coffee hour, known as *Donut Sunday*, great news, we are having another one on July 26 at 12 noon. If you are a new family to St. Stephen's, make sure to contact [Elisa Webster](#) to be added to the donut delivery route. Volunteer teams of St. Stephen's Youth deliver



the donuts to the families the morning of each Donut Sunday, and we don't want you to miss out!

We would also like to thank our June donut drivers: the Jones family, Richard and James Paul Jordan, the McNabb family, Jeannetta Watson, and Elisa Webster. If you are interested in joining the team of volunteer donut drivers for this month, [contact Elisa](#). If you would like to be a sponsor or make a one-time donation toward Donut Sunday, contact: Lydia at office@ststeve.org. All donation amounts are

welcome. Until next time, here are a few snapshots of June's sticky-fingered fun.



Marcionetti family receives their donuts in time for kid's Donut Sunday.



The Kliment family receives their donuts in sunny Kyle.



**VIRTUAL PET BLESSING
SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020 @ 12 noon
(during Kid's Coffee Hour/Donut Sunday)**

All are invited to gather their pets on Sunday, July 26, at 12 noon, for a virtual pet blessing to be held during the kids' coffee hour, known as Donut Sunday. Simply Zoom in at 12 noon with the instructions that we will send that morning, and Fr. Phil will be waiting with blessings at the ready for your pet family members. Attending a pet blessing has never

been easier!

(See related articles in this eNEWS, including how to participate in the pet trading cards and how to make sure your pet photo and narrative vignette is included in the upcoming "Pet and Parishioners" series.)

MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

BACK TO SCHOOL FIESTA 2020 WILL HELP 66 WIMBERLEY CHILDREN



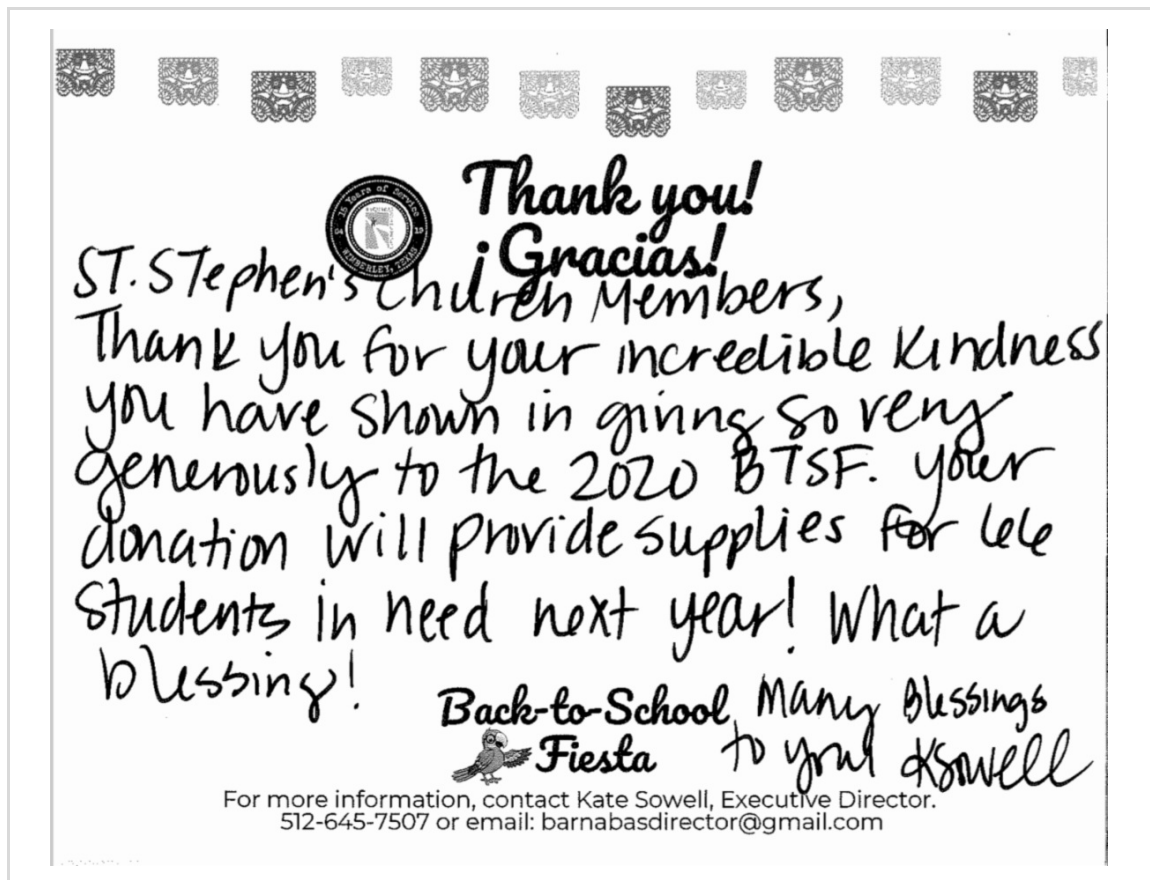
Linda Reed, SSEC Back to School Fiesta ministry leader, wishes to share the uplifting news of how your recent donations are being used to create smiling faces.

"Thank you for responding so favorably to the Father's Day special envelope offering. Your donations of \$3,384 will provide 66 pre-registered Wimberley children with all the necessary school supplies and a backpack for this coming school year," Linda informs.

Back to School Fiesta takes place on Saturday, August 8, and is when the children will receive your gifts.

"There will be many smiling faces," predicts Linda.

The Fiesta, organized by the Barnabas Connection, helps provide 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 this annual event. At St. Stephen's Back to School Fiesta is one of several activities under the Cares for Kids outreach ministry. (See your next issue of eNEWS for more information on the Cares for Kids ministry.)



WIMBERLEY CRISIS BREAD BASKET

P.O. Box 1721
Wimberley, Texas 78676-1721
512/847-5323
wimberleycrisisbreadbasket@gmail.com

07/07/2020

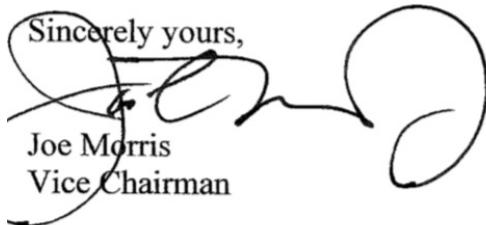
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
6000-A FM 3237
Wimberley, TX 78676

Dear St. Stephen's congregation,

Thank you for your Memorial Day donation of \$1,350 in support of the Crisis Bread Basket. As you know, your donations help us to provide weekly distributions of nutritious food to families from the Wimberley area throughout the year. In addition, we partner with other area programs to provide supplemental meals and food to children in the summer months when normal programs (e.g., school lunches) may not be available.

Your support with others allows us to respond quickly and effectively to help local families in need during particularly difficult times such as the current COVID-19 crisis. We are so grateful for your help now and in the past in accomplishing our mission of "Neighbors helping neighbors by providing food and encouragement".

Sincerely yours,



Joe Morris
Vice Chairman

SESSION 7 GENTLE YOGA & CHAIR YOGA AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW

Whether you would like to use a yoga mat or a chair for yoga, Carla Daws has new routines that will work with both and are now available on the church YouTube and Facebook. Thank you, Carla Daws, for this ongoing yoga ministry that has expanded into a regular virtual offering.

Each session is a stand-alone and may be done in any sequence. To get started, wear comfortable clothes, grab a sturdy chair for Chair Yoga and/or a mat for Gentle Yoga. It's always a good idea to have some drinking water handy too.

Did you know that Chair Yoga is one of the most popular forms of yoga? With each yoga session, you will be building flexibility and strength. Carla recommends to shoot for three



sessions a week as an ideal way to receive yoga's full benefits.

[YouTube Gentle Yoga Session 7](#)

[YouTube Chair Yoga Session 7](#)

[Facebook Gentle Yoga Session 7](#)

[Facebook Chair Yoga Session 7](#)

TAKE 5: EPISODE 7 AIRS THURSDAY, JULY 16

Episode 7 of TAKE 5, hosted by Allen Hennig, and filmed at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church will air on Thursday, July 16 at 10:00 a.m. CDT.

TAKE 5 treats our ears, eyes, and spirit to a five minute music break. This upcoming week's music will feature Allen Hennig on the piano and Anne Jones performing "Bind Us Together."



"We are in the middle of some very strange times," acknowledges Allen. "Coronavirus has seemingly driven all of us further and further apart. But even in our distance, there is one thing that draws us closer together—God's love. Those are bonds that no virus can break."

You are invited to tune in on Thursdays at 10 a.m. CDT. TAKE 5 is guaranteed to soothe your soul!

[YouTube TAKE 5: Episode 7 link](#)

[Facebook TAKE 5: Episode 7 link](#)

FAITHFUL FUN DAY SUMMER SERIES with GODLY PLAY SACRED STORY EPISODE 3 IS HEADED YOUR WAY



St. Stephen's first-ever virtual summer Sunday School program, **Faithful Fun Day**, made its debut in June and has now aired two episodes: [Baptism](#) and [Creation](#). If you missed either of these, they are available on the church [website](#), [YouTube](#), and [Facebook](#). Each episode lasts about 20 minutes.

The third episode of **Faithful Fun Day** will air Friday, July 17 at 10:00 a.m. CDT and will feature the Godly Play Sacred Story of Noah and the Flood as told by Darelle Jordan. Other activities include sing alongs with Tom Dawson and prayers and arts & crafts by Elisa Webster. Links to Episode 3 will be e-mailed to you the morning of July 17.

New packets containing everything your family needs to go along with Episode 3 are in the mail. If you are a new family and wish to be added to the **Faithful Fun Day** mail outs, please contact: Elisa Webster, elisawebster9@gmail.com.

**Next Faithful Fun Day: Noah & the Flood
Friday, July 17, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m. CDT
on YouTube & Facebook**

Did you miss Episode 1 or 2? If so, you can catch up by accessing the prior episodes on the [Faithful Fun Day YouTube playlist](#).

[Click Here for Family Fun Day Videos](#)

**ZOOM TIME WITH FATHER PHIL
(OPEN HOUSE STYLE) WEDNESDAYS @ 10:00 A.M.**

Every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. CDT we are invited to Zoom-in and visit with Fr. Phil about whatever is on our minds. Zoom Time is open house style, meaning you can virtually stop by anytime beginning 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. CDT.

"It's a lot of fun. We have a good time and laugh a lot," assures Fr. Phil.



No appointment is needed, and you can use the same meeting ID and password each week.

[ZOOM TIME LINK](#)

Meeting ID: 824 792 5886

Password: 2468

Thank you to Carroll Wilson and Tom Dawson for creating the entertaining theme song. To listen, click [here](#), and in no time at all don't be surprised if you find yourself singing along to the [catchy ditty](#).

CHRIST CENTERED PRAYER

If you are interested in learning a form of centering prayer called Christ Centered Prayer (CCP), e-mail Fr. Phil, pmason@ststeve.org, for an introduction. CCP meets via Zoom every Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. CDT. A reminder with Zoom instructions is mailed to those on the CCP roster.

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

Connie Maverick, joemaverick@verizon.net

IN & AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Permian Highway Pipeline

Editor's Note: Our own Patrick Cox is a board member and executive director for The Trinity Edwards Springs Protection Association (TESPA). As you may recall TESP and the Wimberley Valley Watershed Association (WVWA) have joined forces to hold Kinder Morgan accountable for violations to the Safe Drinking Water Act. Kinder Morgan Corporation is constructing the Permian Highway Pipeline. This week Patrick's OpEd piece covering the Permian Highway Pipeline issue that affects those living, working,

doing business, and going to school in the Texas Hill Country ran in papers and social media. Click the button below to read Patrick's thoughts on the matter.

[Link to OpEd](#)

SAVE THE DATE

SUN, JULY 12

Holy Eucharist Sunday Service (online), 10:30 a.m, YouTube, Facebook

SUN, JULY 12

Virtual Coffee Hour immediately follows airing of Sunday service (online), Zoom

WED, JULY 15

Zoom Time with Fr. Phil (online), 10:00 a.m., Zoom

WED, JULY 15

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

TH, JULY 16

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

FRI, JULY 17

Faithful Fun Day (online), 10:00 a.m., YouTube, Facebook

SUN, JULY 19

Holy Eucharist Sunday Service (online), 10:30 a.m., YouTube, Facebook

SUN, JULY 19

Virtual Coffee Hour immediately follows airing of Sunday service (online), Zoom

WED, JULY 22

Zoom Time with Fr. Phil (online), 10:00 a.m., Zoom

WED, JULY 22

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

TH, JULY 23

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

SUN, JULY 26

Holy Eucharist Sunday Service (online), 10:30 a.m, YouTube, Facebook

SUN, JULY 26

Donut Sunday: Kid's Virtual Coffee Hour, 12 noon (online), Zoom

SUN, JULY 26

Virtual Pet Blessing (online), 12 noon, *during Donut Sunday*, Zoom



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

(articles, photos, graphics)

WEDNESDAYS, 12 NOON

Jackie McFadden, Communications Manager, eeant@mac.com

Visit our Website



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