



**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/89203035553?pwd=ZnA2b1dkSjMybThtWEhuMzJibUkwZz09>

**Daily Meditations**

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

**Facility/Room Reservations**

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

**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

### LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

*By The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert*



Dear St. Stephen's,

The summer is coming to a close, kids are returning to their classrooms, and activities appear to be ramping up again. My family and I have had an extremely eventful summer, with a number of trips, summer camps, and quality time together. I am very grateful for the experience we shared throughout the summer, but honestly, I am looking forward to a more regular schedule.

Along with the conclusion of the summer months, it is very apparent that the world is still struggling with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Delta variant is clearly another hurdle for us to face. Each day I am hearing of more and more folks, both vaccinated and unvaccinated, that have tested positive. I urge us all to be advocates of the vaccine. If you have not received the vaccine yet, please do so. If you have loved ones who have not received it, please urge them to do so. Throughout the next several weeks, St. Stephen's office staff and leadership will be keeping an eye on the progression of the pandemic, and will take appropriate and responsible action to maintain the safety of our community.

Speaking of the community, we celebrated a wonderful occasion this past Sunday. St. Stephen's Church welcomed the school parents, students, and staff to our 10:30 a.m. service for a Blessing of the Backpacks and Teacher and School Board Installation. I am tremendously grateful for your flexibility and hospitality regarding this wonderful event. It being the first time we have had an event such as this, I believe it went extremely well. Of course, there are a number of things that can make the event go smoother, and we will be implementing those changes next year. Although this is true, all in all, I was thoroughly happy with it. In the future, I look forward to more opportunities that the church and school can be in closer relationship with one another.

The next few weeks provide wonderful opportunities for St. Stephen's. On Saturday, August 28th, we will enjoy a training for all persons desiring to be a part of our liturgical ministries; greeters, readers, ushers, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and the audio-visual team. I hope that you will join us for this important training. Looking a bit further on the calendar, I am looking forward to Sunday, September 12th. On this date we will welcome back our Sunday school programs, youth group, and nursery care. It ought to be an occasion of great celebration.

I continually pray for you and your families. We are living within a difficult time in regard to the pandemic, but our community continues to be strong, resilient, and hopeful. Stay safe during these times, and know that God continues to bless you and remains with you always.

*Peace,*  
*The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert*

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## **UPDATE FROM FAMILY & YOUTH MINISTER**

***By Elisa Webster***

During the summer, St. Stephen's held two new events for church, school, and community members – the week-long *God's Garden* and our information and activities booth at Wimberley Community Celebration for Families.

### ***GOD'S GARDEN***



What a wonderful week we had, August 2-6, with between 16 and 20 children every day of the program. Our days were full of wonderful stories dramatized by Judy Holmes and with lessons about countries far away from us. We learned about children who do not have clean water available to them. Donna Hoyland showed us photographs of different children and their families and how they live. We completed wonderful activities with the guidance and help of Nancy Henson, Becky Denton, and Melissa Odell. We made mini quilts and piñatas, as well as maracas and decorative glass trivets, and much more. The games we played were awesome and full of fun, and led by Jayne Marburger. We had treasure hunts and relay races, as well as a new blind man's bluff.

The children learned how to become still and listen for God's voice—to become mindful and quiet in the midst of this busy world. The children learned how to purify water and how important it is to have both real water, but also spiritual water to keep us alive.

What a wonderful group of children we had. We thank the parents for sharing them with us.

### ***INFORMATION & ACTIVITIES BOOTH AT THE CELEBRATION FOR FAMILIES***



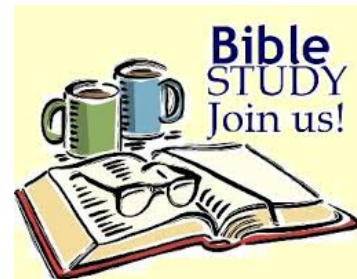
Jayne Marburger and I set up our St. Stephen's information table and waited for the children to arrive at the Wimberley Community Celebration for Families. We had prepared a fossil and gem stone dig for them and a sand art station. It was a wonderful morning, and I think the parents had as much fun as the children digging for arrowheads and fossils and making beautiful art.

Jayne and I had a wonderful day and felt it was a brilliantly organized first annual community event put together by Barnabas Connection and volunteers.

## NEWS

### PREVIEW OF FALL BIBLE CLASSES FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS

Many of the children, youth, and adult Fall bible classes will begin in September. At this time, we are offering both in-person and virtual classes. See below for a sneak preview. Then watch your next issue of eNEWS for even more details.



#### **MONDAYS @ 7:30 a.m., Men's Prayer Group**

***Start Date: Ongoing***

***Contact: [Joe Blanford](#)***

The Men's Prayer Group meets at the Wimberley Cafe on Mondays at 7:30 a.m.

#### **MONDAYS @ 12 noon, Monday Bible Babes**

***Start Date: Monday, September 13, 2021***

***Contact: [Becky Denton](#) or [Cindy Taylor](#)***

All women of St. Stephen's are invited to join the weekly Monday Bible Babes for the Fall study of the Gospel of Mark. The Monday Bible Babes meet at 12 noon and you are invited to bring a brown bag lunch and study runs from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

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#### **TUESDAYS @ 10:30 a.m., Coed Bible Study**

***Start Date: Tuesday, September 28, 2021***

***Contact: [Bob Reed](#)***

This Coed Bible Class will be using the book "*Faith After Doubt*" by Brian D. McLaren. The approximately eight-week session will be taught through Zoom. A copy of the book may be purchased through online booksellers.

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#### **WEDNESDAYS @ 5:00 p.m., Christ Centered Prayer (CCP)**

***Start Date: meets continuously 12 months of the year. Those interested may join at any time.***

***Contact: [Sharon Carter](#)***

This contemplative prayer group, hosted by Sharon Carter, begins each session with a reading from various books, followed by discussion, and 20 minutes of silent prayer. This group gathering is by Zoom. Advice on how to meditate is available to anyone who is interested. All are welcome.

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#### **THURSDAYS @ 4:00 p.m., Thursday Bible Babes**

***Start Date: Thursday, September 9, 2021***

***Contact: [Nancy Cooke-Jenkins](#)***

Thursday Bible Babes, coordinated by Nancy Cooke-Jenkins, and led by a rotation of leaders, meets at the home of Nancy Cooke-Jenkins. They will be using the book "Caste."

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**SUNDAYS @ 10:30 a.m., Kingdom Kids (ages 7-9) & Mountain Movers (ages 10-12)**

***Start Date: Sunday, September 12, 2021***

***Contact: [Elisa Webster](#)***

Children ages 7-12 are invited to go with their families to the 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. The children will stay with their families until the crucifer leads them out along with their Sunday School teachers. The children will then proceed with their teachers to the Log Cabin where they will have class for approximately 30 minutes. The teachers will then lead the children back to the Sanctuary and their families in time for communion. Kingdom Kids (ages 7-9) and Mountain Movers (ages 10-12) will be using *Catechism of the Good Shepherd* curriculum.

**SUNDAYS @ 9:15 a.m., Denton Adult Bible Class**

***Start Date: Sunday, September 12, 2021***

***Contact: [Becky or Bob Denton](#)***

Adults are invited to attend Bob and Becky Denton's eight-week Sunday Bible Class to be held at 9:00 a.m. in McArthur Hall, beginning September 12. This class will be using the book "New Clothes: Putting on Christ and Finding Ourselves" by John Newton. You can pick up your book in the church office after September 1. Books are also available in the Kindle format. Bob and Becky would love to know that you are coming and, drop-ins are welcome anytime. This class will be offered in-person and through Zoom.

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**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.)*

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**HEALING PRAYER RETURNS ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2021**



This fall brings 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.

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, September 22 @ 10:30 a.m. in the Chapel.



# MINISTRY ACTIVITIES

## AN OPEN INVITATION FROM THE CELEBRATION OF LIFE MINISTRY



Have you ever thought, "I would like to do some volunteer work for the church, but my schedule just doesn't allow for the time?" We, the Celebration of Life Ministry (COL), believes there is a solution to this quandary.

COL is in charge of receptions following funeral/memorial services and is in desperate need of helping hands. To this end, we have revised the duties and responsibilities to make the workload lighter.

- We will form teams, with a captain heading each group. Team captains are: Mary McIntosh, Barbara Ann Rogers, and Katy Shugart. With this structure, no one will have to serve at every service.
- If the family desires more than cookies and drinks provided by the church for a certain fee, the COL committee will offer them menus from various caterers, and they may choose the one that appeals to them. Drinks and desserts are included with all catering options. We will not be providing food.
- The teams' responsibilities will be to set up, serve, and tear down, using our linens and providing centerpieces. In the the case of catering, we will still participate in serving, noting there are always exceptions.
- The length of the reception will be limited to two hours.

This ministry is SO VERY important to the bereaved; it gives them a time and the space to commiserate, remember, and feel connected to one another.

If you feel this is a ministry you would enjoy, please contact Nancy Cooke-Jenkins, [nancycookejenkins@gmail.com](mailto:nancycookejenkins@gmail.com). Nancy looks forward to hearing from you and working together in community.

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## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY BEING RECOGNIZED SUNDAY, AUGUST 22 @ 10:30 AM SERVICE



The members of the Prayer Shawl ministry are being recognized for their good and faithful work of creating prayer shawls. All are invited to join us this Sunday, August 22 at the 10:30 a.m. service as we recognize this ministry and as we bless the shawls for distribution.

If you are interested in joining the Prayer Shawl Ministry, contact either [Nancy Henson](#) or [Judy Holmes](#). This ministry meets offsite on Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at Thomason Funeral Home. All levels and skills with knitting are welcome.

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## YOGA IN MCARTHUR HALL CANCELED TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2021

In-person Yoga is canceled Tuesday, August 24, 2021 due to floors in McArthur Hall being waxed. However, class will resume as regularly scheduled on Tuesday, August 31 at 4:00 p.m. in McArthur Hall. In the meantime, if you would like to enjoy



recorded sessions of yoga with Carla Daws from the comfort of your home, we invite you to click the below.

**GENTLE YOGA WITH CARLA DAWS**

**CHAIR YOGA WITH CARLA DAWS**

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## **DEADLINE TO RSVP FOR LITURGICAL MINISTRY & AV TRAINING IS 12 NOON, MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 2021**

Two trainings are being held on Saturday, August 28, 2021. Fr. Kevin and Charlotte Carter will be holding the Liturgical Ministry Training for Lectors, Intercessors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, and Ushers. Adeline Crowley will be holding the A/V training. All volunteers, whether currently serving or new recruits are encouraged to come to this Saturday, August 28 training. Childcare is being provided during the day's training. If you need childcare, be sure to indicate this need on your RSVP.



**10:00 a.m. until 12 noon** - Training for those serving the 8:00 a.m. Sunday services

**11:00 a.m. until 12 noon** - Training for A/V volunteers

**12 noon - 1:00 p.m.** - Lunch is provided for all trainees

**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.** - Training for those serving the 10:30 a.m. Sunday services. *If you are serving both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services, you will benefit the most from taking this afternoon training, since the training will cover the additional changes to the later service.*

Fr. Kevin, Charlotte Carter, and Adeline Crowley are dedicated to delivering the training that you will need to become comfortable and confident.

Please RSVP by 12 noon, Monday, August 23 to let us know that you will be attending. Training is strongly advised for both new recruits and current lay ministry.

***For Liturgical Training,  
RSVP to Charlotte Carter  
[charlotteanncarter@gmail.com](mailto:charlotteanncarter@gmail.com)  
by 12 noon Monday, August 23***

***For A/V Training,  
RSVP to Adeline Crowley  
[Acrowley@ststeve.org](mailto:Acrowley@ststeve.org)  
by 12 noon Monday, August 23***

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## **HAYS CITY STORE TO FEED SEPTEMBER 11 ROADSIDE CLEANUP VOLUNTEERS**





Tamra Tindol, owner of Hays City Store & Ice House, has generously offered to buy lunch for all September 11, 2021 volunteers who help with the roadside ministry's quarterly cleanup. Adult and teen volunteers are welcome! We will be beautifying the five mile stretch of FM 3237, assigned to St. Stephen's by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDot).

As an added incentive, the names of those participating in the September 11 roadside cleanup will be placed in a raffle. One winner will be chosen and will receive a gift card from Hays City Store to use at a later date.

Registration for this ministry event is necessary and greatly appreciated. Safety information and instructions will be sent to you ahead of the scheduled cleanup date.

***Click the button below to signup. It's that easy.***

On the day of the event, those who have registered, will check in between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. in the Courtyard to pick up orange vests, trash grabbers, and other supplies. Together, in pairs, we will then head out to beautify our five mile stretch of highway. This is a great opportunity to get some exercise, enjoy the outdoor Texas Hill Country views, help out the entire community, and earn a free delicious lunch from Tamra and the good folks at Hays City Store. Be a part of the amazing "before & after" of a cleanup. It's rewarding!

For more information, contact Cindy Taylor, [taylorcindy34@gmail.com](mailto:taylorcindy34@gmail.com) or Todd Schmidt, [tkschmidt88@gmail.com](mailto:tkschmidt88@gmail.com), or Mike Marcionetti, [mikeydrum@gmail.com](mailto:mikeydrum@gmail.com).

**SIGN UP FOR SEPTEMBER 11 CLEANUP**

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## 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.

For more information on this ministry, visit the church website, [www.ststeve.org/ministries](http://www.ststeve.org/ministries).

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## 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. and will include an online auction. 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](http://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](mailto: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!!!

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## REGISTER NOW FOR WOMEN'S RETREAT @ WELLSPRINGS, SEPTEMBER 10-12, 2021



The SSEC ministry for Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is sponsoring two events in September—a retreat and an after-retreat get together.

All adult women are encouraged to register now for the Women's Retreat at Wellsprings Retreat Center, to be held September 10-12, 2021. Cost is \$30. Look for the sign up sheets and poster in McArthur Hall. Activities at this relaxing weekend of fun and fellowship include: yoga with Carla Daws, music with JoAnn Seeberger, movie night, and a presentation by Rev. Bryn Caddell.

***Last day to sign up for the Women's ECW Retreat is Sunday, August 22.***

***Payment of \$30 will need to be received no later than Sunday, August 29.***

Following the retreat at Wellsprings, all women from St. Stephen's are invited to attend a get together at Carolyn Galle's home in Wimberley, Texas on Saturday, September 18 @ 1:00 p.m.

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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.

### AUGUST COMMUNITY OF HOPE CONTACTS

Becky Denton, [dentonrebecca1@gmail.com](mailto:dentonrebecca1@gmail.com)

Dot Green, [dotgreen@anvilcom.com](mailto:dotgreen@anvilcom.com)

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## SAVE THE DATE



**FRI, AUGUST 20**

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

**SUN, AUGUST 22**

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

*Choir Practice, Sanctuary, 9:15 a.m.*

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

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

*Choir Practice, Sanctuary, 12:00 noon*

**MON, AUGUST 23**

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

*Cursillo Reunion Group, McArthur Hall, 10:30 a.m.*

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

**TUES, AUGUST 24**

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

**WED, AUGUST 25**

*Prayer Shawl Ministry (offsite: Thomason Funeral Home), 2:30 p.m.*

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

**TH, AUGUST 26**

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

**SAT, AUGUST 28**

*Liturgical Ministry & A/V Training, Chapel/Sanctuary, 10:00 a.m./11:00 a.m.*

**SUN, AUGUST 29**

*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, AUGUST 30**

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

*Cursillo Reunion Group, McArthur Hall, 10:30 a.m.*

**TUES, AUGUST 31**

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

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

**WED, SEPTEMBER 1**

*Prayer Shawl Ministry (offsite: Thomason Funeral Home), 2:30 p.m.*

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

**TH, SEPTEMBER 2**

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

**FRI, SEPTEMBER 3**

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



On Sunday, August 15, more than 280 people gathered at the 10:30 a.m. Back to School Service. Teachers and School Board were commissioned and students had their backpacks blessed by Fr. Kevin. Afterwards we enjoyed hotdogs, meet the teachers, and toured the school during its Open House.



One of several exquisite shawls made by the Prayer Shawl Ministry that will be blessed on Sunday, August 22 before distribution to those needing some extra love from St. Stephen's.

## 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.