

June 7, 2024

This Week's Bulletins are available on the website: [StStephensOR.org](http://StStephensOR.org)



### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Safe Church In-Person Training – June 9  
Clearfork Learning Camp – July 8-12

### SERVICES

SUN 7:45 AM – Holy Eucharist Rite I  
SUN 10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist Rite II  
Live streamed on YouTube  
TUE 11:30 AM – Holy Eucharist Rite I and  
Healing Service in St. Alban's Chapel

### ONGOING CHURCH EVENTS

Tuesday Bible Study  
Pollard Room 10:00 AM  
Wednesday Men's Group  
Pollard Room 8:30 AM  
Thursday Contemplative Prayer  
Via Zoom 4:00 PM

### PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Why was the apostle Paul doing in prison in Rome... and why did he write a letter to the Ephesians while there? There are so many interesting questions about this... why, I bet you have some questions yourselves. Come ask those questions and find answers: the **Tuesday Adult Bible Study** meets and discusses important questions of faith and life. Tuesday mornings, 10am, in the Pollard Library.



### SERVICE TIME CHANGES!!

The Vestry has been looking at a proposal from Fr. Bailey and results from the Envisioning Committee survey to alter our service times to 8 and 10:30 with Christian formation happening between the services. We want to give a couple of more weeks of conversation with parishioners about this change before we enact this change. If there are no major objections, we will look at making this change sometime in July. Fr. Bailey will be sending out a letter this week detailing more of the reasons for the service time change. Please do not hesitate to reach out to him at [rector@ststephensor.org](mailto:rector@ststephensor.org) or his cell 865-323-1417 if you would like to ask questions, offer input, etc.



### CELTIC EUCHARIST SUNDAY At 5:00 PM (FUMCOR)

This month First United Methodist Church is hosting our Celtic Contemplative Service in collaboration with St. Stephen's. This service features quiet meditative music and prayers that encourage us to be centered on God's presence in creation and within our hearts. It is a wonderful way to prepare our hearts and spirits for the busy week that lies ahead. We hope you will join us for this service. Next month, St. Stephen's will host the service on Sunday **July 14th at 5:00 PM.**

June 7, 2024

This Week's Bulletins are available on the website: [StStephensOR.org](http://StStephensOR.org)

**June's Loose Offering Recipient is:**

The Blossom Center



**Blessing Box Requested Items**

*This weeks requested items are individual children's fruit pouches or cups, fruit roll-ups and children's snacks.*



**No-Cost Grief Support Group**

Anyone in the parish who has experienced the recent, or not-so-recent, death of a loved one is invited to participate in a *grief support group* this summer for members of St. Stephen's. The group will meet weekly for seven weeks, beginning in June, either in the early afternoon or early evening, depending on the preferences of the group participants. Sessions will include some educational materials, as well as extended time for sharing of thoughts, feelings, and experiences of the group members.

The group will be limited to 12 persons, but we still have a few more spots available. If you have questions or are interested in participating, please let Fathers Bailey or Ashton, or Steve (via email: [stephen.herbes@yahoo.com](mailto:stephen.herbes@yahoo.com)) know.



**Lemonade In The Grove Returns June 2!**

Weather permitting, starting on June 2nd, we will be serving Lemonade and Iced Tea, along with light refreshments, in the grove after the 10:00 service. This St. Stephen's tradition will continue throughout the summer!



**Hospitality**

Beginning in June, Beth Bailey will be assuming the leadership of the hospitality ministry and coordinating our volunteers. We want to extend our thanks to Barbara Steele who has been heading up this ministry for the last five years. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please contact Beth Bailey. Her email is [baileydb1@comcast.net](mailto:baileydb1@comcast.net)



**Safe Church In-Person Training**

Emily Kirk, the diocesan Safe Church coordinator, will offer an in-person Safe Church/Safe Communities training on June 9, 2024 at St. Stephen's following the 10:00 church service. In-person training takes about 4 hours. A light lunch will be provided. In order for there to be enough food, there will be sign-up sheets in the Hospitality Area, the Narthex, and the Parish Hall.

*... continued next page*

June 7, 2024

This Week's Bulletins are available on the website: [StStephensOR.org](http://StStephensOR.org)

If your last training was 2021, you are due for a refresher course. If you have a key to the building or work with our youth in any capacity, you are required to have this training. You can also access the training on your computer. If you are unsure of your current status or need the log-in information for the computer version of training, please contact Judith Delaney at [delaneyj01@bellsouth.net](mailto:delaneyj01@bellsouth.net).



### **Clearfork Camp**

The Clearfork Camp Committee is busy preparing for the 2024 camp, July 8-12. Our theme this year is Stewardship. One of the days our focus is stewardship of the environment. We plan to do crafts with empty plastic water and soda bottles of all sizes and ask for your donations. Please leave the bottles in the Clearfork box on the floor of the Mailroom, across from the Nursery. We are also asking for donations of healthy snacks, for example, peanut butter crackers, beef jerky, fruit roll ups and other fruity snacks, etc. And, as always we need volunteers to help with activities and supervision. For more information, contact Cameron Ellis, 865-414-7542, [r.c.ellis@comcast.net](mailto:r.c.ellis@comcast.net)



### **NEXT PARISH POTLUCK WILL BE JUNE 23rd!**

Our first monthly Parish Potluck was a success! Mark your calendars...our next monthly Parish Potluck will be on June 23rd after the 10:00 service and will have a Tex-Mex theme. Please bring the fixings for a Taco Bar, an enchilada casserole, rice, beans, or any of your favorite sides. In order to have enough food for everyone, double what you would need to feed your own family!

*Parish Life will provide the beverages, paper goods and silverware. Please plan to join your parish family as we share a meal together.*



Our exceptional **Sherry Burchfield** has decided to step down from her role as Christian Education Director at the end of this school year. In this role for the past four years, Sherry has been a devoted advocate and servant for our youngest parishioners and their families. Her generous contributions yielded positive impacts that will, quite literally, last a lifetime. Thank you so very much, Sherry, we sincerely appreciate you.



### **AS AMERICAN AS...PIE! RETURNS IN JULY!**

Pie bakers, break out those recipes and get ready for the second "As American As...Pie" event on July 7th. Last year we had 17 bakers, and we would like to have even more. Contact Parish Life Chair Leah Bailey ([lbailey667@comcast.net](mailto:lbailey667@comcast.net)) to volunteer to make a pie.



### ***Do you have news for an upcoming issue of The St. Stephens's Messenger (e-News)?***

Please send fully edited articles with all pertinent information, including dates, times, location(s), and contact information, to [editor@ststephensor.org](mailto:editor@ststephensor.org) by **NOON** on Wednesday. *Content for The Messenger is determined in consultation with clergy and staff.*