



St Stephen's E-News

Download printable copy here: [St. Stephen's E-News for August 18, 2023](#)

Calendar for the Week

August 20, 2023 - Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Service bulletins for Sunday's 7:45 a.m. Spoken Eucharist and 10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist will be available on the church's website [here](#).

Both services will be held in the Nave. The 10:00 service will be live-streamed.

August 22, 2023 - Holy Eucharist + Healing Service - 11:30 AM

Sunday, August 20, 2023 - Adult Formation Series

Join us for our new Adult Formation Series
as we imaginatively explore central topics of Christianity.
We will start this Sunday,
meeting after the 10:00 AM Service in the Pollard Room

Animate: Bible

Imaginatively explore central topics of Christianity.



In each Animate: Bible session, we will view a video which blends live action with animations to provide thought-provoking perspectives, and beckons discussions.

In this class, we will:

- Focus on building authentic conversation about God.
- Engage in personal reflection on faith learnings and prayer.
- Gain perspectives on canon, history, testaments, gospels, genre, interpretation, and grace from seven Christian thought leaders.

To learn more about this exciting way to explore the Bible - click [here](#)

Sunday, August 20, 2023 - Children's Sunday School



It's back to school time! We have a variety of Christian Education to offer to our children and youth.

- The Pre-K group will meet in the Catechesis Room 108, located downstairs at the end of the hall from the Parish Hall.

Our Episcopalian Children's Curriculum will meet upstairs on the church level:

- Kids in grades 1-3 will meet in Room 202.
- Kids in grades 4-6 will meet in Room 204
- Kids in grades 6-8 will meet in Room 209

If you have any questions, please contact Sherry Burchfield, Christian Education at 865-661-9413, or email Sherry by clicking [here..](#)

Sunday, September 17, 2023 - Free Ice Cream!



Mark your calendars to join us for a farewell to summer with ICE CREAM!

On Sunday, September 17, 2023, we will have only one service at 10:00 am.

Then - the ice cream truck from Lolli and Bobo's will be in the Grove to serve a FREE single scoop to everyone. If you've haven't experienced this new Oak Ridge tradition, please join us for another wonderful Parish Life event!

Non-dairy options will be available.

Outreach News

Our Anglican tradition recognizes sacraments as “outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace”. Outreach is a visible way to take that grace out into the world as representatives of the Body of Christ. Here at St. Stephen's our Outreach ministry is active with a number of organizations. We are grateful for the ongoing support of the parish through the loose offerings and other targeted collections.

Earlier this year, the parish donated the Lenten Mite Box offerings to Fr. Mike Wallens and the Rio Grand Borderline Ministries (RGBM). The RGBM works in partnership with Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) to provide humanitarian support to vulnerable people in our border communities.

We have tentatively scheduled an event for Sunday, September 27, 2023, where the Parish can hear directly from Fr. Wallens how our offering is helping his ministry. This is collaborative effort between Outreach and Parish Life. This event will feature a Zoom call with Father Mike at the Border, followed by a Tex-Mex themed potluck.

Stay tuned for more information!

Ministry Updates

Celebration for Adam - and Wish List

Last week the Parish gave our seminarian, Adam Ballintoy, a rousing send off. Recently, one of our Vestry members was overheard commenting that each Parish Life event gets bigger and lasts longer - and this event ran true! Thanks to all the volunteers who worked tirelessly at the grill and in the kitchen - y'all did GREAT!

If you'd like to support Adam on his journey, Adam has a wish-list on Amazon for those in the parish who wish to contribute. You can find the list here:

[Adam's Seminary Wish List](#)

Family Quiet Room - Room 209

We want to invite families with infants and babies to know that we have a quiet room just down the hall from the main church. It's a lovely space for families who may need to tend to babies or need a quiet moment!

Wednesday Night Suppers - New This Fall

This fall Adult Formation will be hosting a Wednesday Night supper with adult classes and activities for kids. The evening will start at 5pm with promises that everyone will be on their way home at 6:30pm. More information soon!

Safety Measures at the Church - A reminder

Please remember that safety at St. Stephen's is especially important. To protect those we love and that which we value. The following is a reminder of the new access controls method in place since July 1, 2023:

- The building will remain locked except during service arrival times.
- During arrival for worship services, these doors will be unlocked and access through the doors will be monitored:
 - red door entrance adjacent to Narthex
 - glass door entrance by hospitality area
 - ramp room entrance
 - red door entrance by Memorial Garden.
- Ring doorbells are located at entrances. These are used during office hours to assess visitors prior to building entry.
- All groups using the building must keep all doors locked. Groups cannot leave building entrance doors unlocked or unattended.
- Unfamiliar visitors must be accompanied while inside our facility and are not allowed to bring backpacks or similar items into the building.

If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Bailey or Senior Warden Courtney Manrod.

Daughters of the King



This year the Order of the Daughters of the King celebrates 138 years of Prayer, Service and Evangelism. Our own St Agnes Chapter will resume monthly meetings starting Sunday, September 10, 2023. Our theme for this coming year is spiritual growth through servanthood.

All women of the parish are welcome and invited to attend these meetings.

- There are no special spiritual attributes needed to become a Daughter of the King – only a sincere desire to draw nearer to God, and to help others do the same.
- We meet on the second Sunday of each month following the 10 am service (approximately 11:45 am-1:00 pm) in the Chapel.

Save the Date! Saturday, November 18, 2023, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Fr. Ashton Sims will lead a Quiet Afternoon and mini retreat in preparation for Advent. All are welcome. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

This Week's Loose Offering

This week's loose plate offering will go to The Compassion Closet. Learn more about their mission and read stories of hope on their website:

[The Compassion Closet - Compassion Closet](#)

Memorial Garden Renovations Continue

The Memorial Garden renovations are underway, and our volunteers are giving this sacred place of reflection and memorial a much-needed makeover. The Garden will remain open during this time, and we ask that all who visit take particular care and caution while the work is ongoing - thank you for your patience!

Support our Blessing Box - This Week's Request: Cleaning Supplies

This week's focus is on items that cannot be purchased with stamps - specifically cleaning products, such as Comet, Dawn, etc.

If you bring a few items, please feel free to place them directly in the Blessing Box. If you bring multiple items, we ask that you drop it off inside the church. We try to ensure that the Box remains stocked throughout the week.

Of course, we welcome any donations of non-perishable food items and toiletries. Donated items may be placed in the bins located in the Narthex and Hospitality Room, or directly in the Blessing Box.

Ongoing Church Events

Tuesday Bible Study - Pollard Room, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

The Tuesday Bible Study continues Prayer, a guided study by Tim Keller. For more information email james.rousey@aol.com.

Wednesday Men's Group - 8:30 AM

The Men's Group meets every Wednesday in the Pollard Room.

Thursday Contemplative Prayer (Zoom) - 4:00 PM

The Contemplative Prayer Group meeting continues its discipline of silent contemplative prayer. If you'd like to join us, feel free to call/text us (Steve Herbes: 865.250.9123; Liz Herbes: 865.228.2537).

NOTE: The Contemplative Prayer Group will not meet on the following days: Aug. 31, Sep. 6, and Sep. 13, 2023. The Group will resume on September 21, 2023.

Helpful Links

[Those Who Serve](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[News and Events from the Episcopal Diocese of East Tennessee](#)

To request after-hours assistance please call the church's landline, 865-483-8497, and follow the voice prompts to "Pastoral Emergency" (Option 2).

The church's office hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Offices are closed on Fridays and weekends.

Please email articles, announcements, and photos for future E-News to editor@ststephensor.org. | Our deadline is Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Oak Ridge, Tennessee
[Website](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)