

FEBRUARY 2020

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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The Rev. Bailey Norman
PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

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The Evangel

A MESSAGE FROM FR. BAILEY

Friends –

I am beyond delighted and grateful to accept the call to serve as your next Priest-in-Charge! There are many of you that are new to St. Stephen's since I served as the Assistant from 2006-2009, and I am looking forward to meeting all of you and reconnecting with those we knew from our time before. St. Stephen's and Oak Ridge are home for us in that my wife Sara grew up as a child of your parish, her parents (Barbara and Richard Neill) are active members, and it was the place from which I was both married and ordained a priest. We still have many friends in the greater community and always savor our time back in the hills of East Tennessee.

Despite our great joy in returning to familiar and sacred ground, we are not back at St. Stephen's for a homecoming. Through your long and arduous search process, Sara and I discovered that the work you have done at St. Stephen's in discerning how to grow, how to take care of one another, and how to reach out into the wider community are things that we are both passionate about and with which we have a great deal of experience. Your Search Committee and Vestry, both in direct conversations and through the numerous documents they produced, have done an outstanding job in trying to position St. Stephen's for what is to come – how to be a church in this rapidly changing world that is attuned to the needs and issues of our times and yet strives to minister in and through the beautiful sacraments of our worship and the wonderful traditions of how we live our life together as Episcopalians. You've made it clear you are willing to take risks, to go beyond your walls, and to stretch yourselves to carry out the work of God in Oak Ridge and beyond. This mindset of ministry – a hopeful, active, and progressive faith grounded in the study and practice of Scripture, tradition, and reason – are very much where we are as well. The fact that St. Stephen's and Oak Ridge have been our home is an exceptionally great bonus, but we are here because we feel called by God to journey with you on the path where you are now.



We will begin this journey anew with you on February 26, which is Ash Wednesday. Walking through Lent together is a great meeting point for us to reconnect – or to connect for the first time.

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Sara and I have a significant addition to our family since we were with you a decade ago. We have a 4 year-old son, James Henry. He too is excited about being with you, as we are excited to introduce him to all of you as well. Until then, we are focused on closing out our ministry and saying our goodbyes to the wonderful people of Trinity and our friends here in Mobile. But our time together will be upon us soon. Please keep us in your prayers as we will for you. But above all, give thanks for the good work of your leaders at St. Stephen's and lift up your prayers with great joy and anticipation for the exciting journey that is to come.

Christ's Peace,
Father Bailey +

FAREWELL FROM FR. BO TOWNSEND

Dear Parish family,

I have enjoyed my time with you all and I am very excited about your future in community with Bailey. I will be watching with great interest as your future unfolds.

They say good things come to those who wait and you all have been waiting. Paul says, "suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope. Now this hope does not disappoint because God's love has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."

Now is the time to look forward and now is the time for hope. Now is the time to be expectant for what God has in store for you all and to be thankful for all that you have been given. Thank you for my time with you and for all the various ministries that you all provide for this part of God's Kingdom. I pray that the future is bright for St. Stephen's. Thanks be to God.

Father Bo+

MARYLAND STATE BOYCHOIR

Save the date! The Maryland State Boychoir's Young Men's Chorus will be coming to St. Stephen's on **Sunday, February 16, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.** They will sing at Christ Church Cathedral in Nashville in the morning, before joining us in the evening.

This is a group of 25 choristers ages 14-22 who perform a wide variety of styles including Renaissance, standard church anthems, Barbershop, men's glee club, gospels, and spirituals.



WOMEN'S INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

At the **February 3, 2020** meeting of Women's Interfaith Dialogue, Gay Marie Logsdon will speak on "Taking Charge as a Medical Advocate." The meeting will be held at the Jewish Congregation of Oak Ridge, 101 W. Madison Lane. All are welcome to attend the reception at 10:45 A.M., followed by the program at 11 A.M.

EPISCOPAL YOUTH FELLOWSHIP - EYF

February 1 Happening #79 Team Training
February 7 DIOET Convention High Point Lock-in
February 7-8 Diocesan Convention
February 22 Diocesan Acolyte Festival
February 25 Shrove Tuesday/Bingo Night
February 28 to March 1 Happening #79
For more information, please contact Caroline Wood, youthminister@ststephensor.org.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United will meet on **Friday, February 7, 2020**, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Columbus Hall. Maggie McNally and Julia Kendrick will speak about YWCA programs. Fellowship at 11:30 A.M. Meeting and program at noon. All are welcome!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

St. Stephen's is preparing to host the 2020 World Day of Prayer service on **Friday, March 6, 2020, at 7 P.M.** Contact Gay Marie Logsdon (logsburn@att.net, 483-7940) on how to get involved.



VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

While the call of Fr. Bailey Norman is the big news, your 2020 Vestry has been busy on other fronts as well. Financially, our parish finished 2019 in better shape than had been anticipated at the beginning of the year - received more and spent less. And pledges for 2020 show a 10% increase over last year, about half of the increase from new pledges. Thus, we were able to adopt a budget with a small increase for lay staff, their first increase in several years. We still have financial challenges ahead, but are moving in a good direction.

Listed below are the chairs and vestry representatives of our 15 standing committees. Much of the lay ministry of St. Stephen's takes place under the guidance of these committees. If you have questions or interests in their activities, these ladies and gentlemen, plus your wardens, are ready to help. Vestry meets on the **second Tuesday** of every month, 6:30 P.M. Visitors are welcome.

Brent Sigmon, Sr. Warden

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	VESTRY REPRESENTATIVE
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	Nancy Anderson	Nancy Anderson
EVANGELISM	Judith Delaney	Judith Delaney
LITURGICS	Fr. Bailey Norman	Jo Kelley
OUTREACH	John Murphy	John Murphy
PASTORAL CARE	Steve Herbes	Liz Herbes
BUILDING AND GROUNDS	Lew Felton	Lew Felton
BYLAWS AND POLICIES	Lew Felton	Lew Felton
COMMUNICATIONS	Adam Ballintoy	Sandi Robertson
FINANCE	Cyril Meredith	Cyril Meredith
GIFTS & MEMORIALS	Deborah Clary	Barbara Bovee
MEMORIAL GARDEN	Brent Sigmon & Nancy Carow	Brent Sigmon
NOMINATING	Brent Sigmon	Brent Sigmon
PARISH LIFE	Bonnie Bautz	Bonnie Bautz
PERSONNEL	Judith Delaney	Judith Delaney
STEWARDSHIP	Alan Liby	Judy DiGregorio

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

St. Agnes DOK Meeting / Study Program will be on **Wednesday February 5, 2020**

Communion service in the Chapel at 10:00 A.M., followed by Study Program in the Pollard room. This month is Part Two of "Honoring the Body", led by the Rev. Claire Keene.

Blessed fellowship! ALL are welcome!

LENTEN RETREAT

SAVE THE DATE! The St. Agnes DOK is sponsoring a Lenten Retreat at St. Stephen's: "Growing in Grace and Gratitude", led by the Rev. Claire Keene. Mark your calendars and plan to attend! **March 27-28, 2020.**

March 27th Friday 7:00-9:00 P.M.

March 28th Saturday 8:30-9:00 A.M.

Gathering with coffee and a light breakfast 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Snacks and a box lunch will be provided. ALL are welcome!

SHROVE TUESDAY

Join us for the annual Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, February 25, 2020, at 5 P.M. to 6:45 P.M. in the Parish Hall. The supper will be served by the youth.

\$5 per person or

\$20 per family

Children under 5 are free.

Donations benefit the EYF Group!



BURNING OF THE PALMS

If you saved your palm cross from Palm Sunday last year, please bring it on **Tuesday, February 25, 2020** for the Burning of the Palms, **6:45 P.M.** on the front patio. The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made from the burning of palms blessed in the previous year's Palm Sunday celebration.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist will be at **6:30 A.M., 12:10 P.M. and 7:00 P.M.** in the nave on **February 26, 2020.**



February Celebrations

BIRTHDAYS

2/2	Adam Ballintoy		
2/5	Jamie Burnham		
2/7	Rob Steele		
2/8	Kathie Shearer		
2/9	Parker Stanley		
	Mary Petersen		
2/10	Elizabeth Botica		
2/12	Adolf King		
2/13	Fiona Yearwood		
2/14	Greg Majors		
	Eileen Hartley		
2/15	Mary Jeanne French	2/21	Carol King
2/16	Katherine Etheridge	2/22	Carol Skyberg
	David Felton	2/23	Joe McGrory
2/17	Brent Sigmon	2/25	Charles Jones
2/19	Dan DiGregorio	2/26	Nathan Kruzik
	Audrey Henry		Cammie Owens



ANNIVERSARIES

2/6	Linda & Lew Felton
2/18	Mary Nell & Jack Campbell
2/20	Kathy Moore & Dan Tuxbury



Where God is seen, love is felt, lives are changed!

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