



St. Stephen's E-NEWS

WHERE GOD IS SEEN, LOVE IS FELT, LIVES ARE CHANGED.

September 24, 2021

SUNDAY WORSHIP

This Sunday is the 18th Sunday after Pentecost. Our readings for Sunday are:

- Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
- Psalm 124
- James 5:13-20
- Mark 9:38-50

7:45 a.m. spoken service in the Nave
10:00 a.m. choral eucharist in the Nave
1:00 p.m. spoken service in the Grove

COMMUNION UPDATE

Based on conversations with the Bishop and other clergy, Fr. Bailey will NOT be serving wine with communion due concerns over COVID safety protocols. Holy Communion will be bread only.



ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendar! Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held Sunday, October 3, 2021. We will have ONE service at 10 a.m., and the Annual Meeting will take place during the normal sermon time. The meeting will also be livestreamed on YouTube.

WEEKLY PRAYERS

We pray for Parish Members

Allan Reiss and Jamey Kennedy
Pat Reuss

Wayne and Mary Rhoades
Jeffrey and Sandi Robertson, Brian
Jim and June Rousey

Please include these people in your prayers.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, we will have our annual Blessing of the Animals on October 2, 2021 at 10 a.m. Bring your dogs, cats, birds, fish, hamsters! If you have a beloved animal who has passed away in the last year, please send a photo of your pet, and we will also bless them.



St. Francis of Assisi



"There is a harmony in autumn, and a luster in its sky, which through the summer is not heard or seen, as if it could not be, as if it had not been!"

~Percy Bysshe Shelley

EYF

EYF will meet this Sunday, September 26th. Following lunch and Sunday School, we will continue discussing the results of the Myers Briggs Personality test. The weather is supposed to be nice so come prepared to go on a hike! Pick-up will be at 3:00 pm.

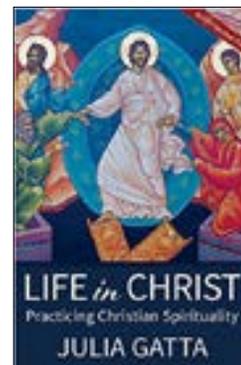


~Craig Brent, Molly & Caleb Justice

LIFE IN CHRIST: PRACTICING CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

Beginning on October 10, 2021, and extending into mid-November, please join us from 11:30 to 12:15 on Sunday mornings as we study and discuss Life in Christ: Practicing Christian Spirituality by Julia Gatta.

Mother Gatta is an Episcopal priest and serves as the Bishop Frank A. Juhan Professor of Pastoral Theology at Sewanee's School of Theology, a position that she has held since 2004. An author of several books on the pastoral and mystical tradition from an Anglican perspective, this book is the culmination of her teaching on the practice of Christian spirituality, which Mother Gatta has taught in both parochial and seminary contexts. In it she dives into the longings of the human heart whose deepest, sometimes unspoken or even unknown, desire is to seek the face of the Lord, and how rooting ourselves in the sacramental life of the Church aids us in the lifetime endeavor.



Rather than being a prescriptive instruction manual of spiritual practices, Life in Christ explores the deeper realities of "the basics" as understood through the lenses of Scripture, the Book of Common Prayer, and the larger Christian Tradition. You will enrich your understanding of what it means to be baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, transform your experience of what we do on Sunday morning, and be invited into deeper avenues of grace and spiritual growth. The book is available in both physical and digital formats. Please order a copy and feel free to read ahead! If you need any assistance in obtaining a copy, please contact the Parish Office.

~Ashton Sims



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On August 14, 2021, a magnitude 7.2 earthquake struck the Tiburon peninsula in Haiti, and at least 2,200 people are confirmed dead and over 12,000 injured in this disaster. The epicenter is west of the area called Petit Harpon. People in Petit Harpon and Leogane were not as devastated but continue to struggle with day-to-day survival.

St. Stephen's founded and is the sole supporter of a small medical facility, the St. John the Evangelist Medical Clinic, which you hear about in our prayers every week. Each month, funds that we send are used approximately half for medicines and half for the doctor and nurse. In an approach unique to Haiti, the treatments are provided at no cost to the patients. This little clinic, operating within the St. John the Evangelist church building, is the only medical care available for a significant distance. Even the Episcopal hospital in Leogane is unaffordable for most in the region.

Right now, one of our St. Stephen's families is offering matching funds up to \$2600 for other donations. Please chip in to help make up the \$2600 before the end of the year. This is strictly Parish to Parish, no middle-men or admin costs. Your donation goes directly to providing care to poor subsistent farmers. Thanks.

~ Cameron Ellis

CLERGY DAYS OFF

With Fr. Ashton on board, please note that he will be taking Mondays off from the office. Fr. Bailey will continue to take Fridays off. Please note that for any meetings you may schedule with them and for any pastoral emergencies that come up.

VESTRY NOMINEES

We are pleased to announce the names of the four vestry candidates: Adam Cavender, Tom Clary, Lew Felton, and Beth Reed. Bios and photos will be coming soon!

