



# St. Stephen's E-NEWS

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

July 23, 2021

9 Pentecost

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

**S**unday, July 25, 2021, we will have two services of Holy Eucharist: 9 A.M. worship outside in the Grove, and 11:00 A.M. indoor worship and livestream in the Nave.

## SERMON SUMMARY

John's gospel presents us with two stories: the feeding of 5,000 and Jesus walking on water. Each miracle is a sign that points us to the Kingdom of God at work in the world and in our lives. They are not descriptions of past events, but a revelation of God in the moment that blesses us unexpectedly. Miracles are not magic, but signs of the grace of God that feeds body and soul. These stories have inspired the defeated and given hope to the discouraged, and you may be surprised how.

~ Pastor Steve Damos



## PASTORAL CARE

**THIS WEEK, WE PRAY FOR PARISH MEMBERS:**

Julie Longoria  
Barbara Lopes

*Please include these people in your prayers.*

## SUNDAY WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: AUGUST 15, 2021

### BEGINNING ON AUGUST 15, 2021

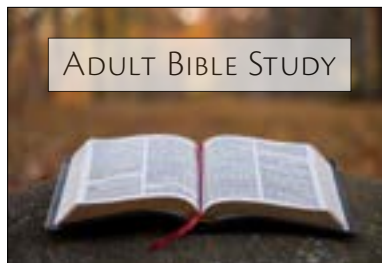
- 7:45 A.M.** Holy Eucharist Rite II, spoken service in the Nave
- 9:00 A.M.** Coffee and Refreshments (Parish Hall) / Choir Rehearsal (Nave)
- 10:00 A.M.** Choral Eucharist Rite II in the Nave (Nursery Provided)
- 11:15 A.M.** LUNCH
- 11:30 A.M.** Christian Education for All Ages (including Nursery)

Please take note of our upcoming Worship and Christian Education Schedule! After the last several years of changing schedules, changing priests, and global pandemic restrictions, we are very much looking forward to having some **CONSISTENCY** with this new schedule. We will be together as a faith family in the Nave again. We will have fellowship! We will have choir music! We will have Holy Eucharist every Sunday! While there are new things being planned, let's also rest in the comfort of returning to familiar routines!

## TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

**T**uesday Adult Bible Study will present a series, *The Parables of Jesus*, on Tuesday mornings at 10 A.M. in the library, beginning **August 3, 2021**. Everyone is invited to attend and participate in lively discussions. The group dismisses at 11 A.M., in time to attend the 11:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist and Healing Service.

~ Jim Rousey



## FR. BAILEY'S VACATION

We remind you that Fr. Bailey is on vacation from **Monday, July 19 through Saturday, July 31, 2021**. He will be returning to worship on Sunday, August 1, 2021.

In the event of a pastoral emergency, please contact Steve Herbes at 865-250-9123 or [lznsteveherbes@yahoo.com](mailto:lznsteveherbes@yahoo.com).

## LUNCH VOLUNTEERS

Calling all St. Stephen's ministry groups and committees to volunteer to organize lunches after the late service starting **August 15, 2021**.



Some kitchen training will be required, especially since we have not used it in so long due to the pandemic. When deciding on foods, please consider an option for those who are dairy, gluten and/or meat free, if possible. Please review the available date/time slots and click on the button to sign up for a Sunday. If you have questions or need assistance, contact Rachel in Parish Life 865-560-6122, or click the little envelope on [Signup Genius](#) to send an email message. Thank you!

~ Rachel Kirk

*More news on page 2...*



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## ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Small group theology exploration will be offered beginning in the middle of August. Have you ever thought about all of the connotations of the spiritual words we use every day? Do you think about how you would explain the meanings of those words to a friend who was not churched? Do you think about how different faith traditions use the same words very differently? If these questions interest you, come join us for a deeper exploration of the meanings of these words and your experience with them.



Please bring notebooks or pads of paper and something to write with because we will begin each exploration by writing about what these words mean to you personally. As people are willing, we will share as much or little of these writings as we are comfortable doing with each other. I look forward to seeing you there.

~Jamey Kennedy

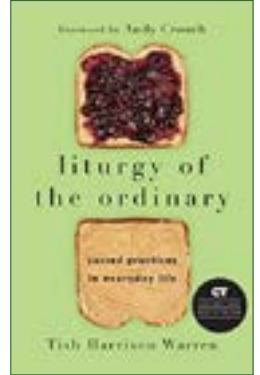
## ADULT BOOK STUDY: LITURGY OF THE ORDINARY

Our Christian Education starts **August 15, 2021**. Please join us from 11:30 A.M. to 12:15 P.M. on Sunday mornings for a guided study through a wonderful book called *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren. Warren is an Anglican priest but also a wife and mom who shares her experience of finding deep connections with God through the mundane rituals of the day. From brushing her kids' teeth to the maddening frustration of losing her keys, each of these experiences invites her (and us through her wonderful storytelling) to a deeper understanding of our baptism, the Eucharist, and our rich life of daily prayer.

This study is perfect for all people, and it will be especially helpful for the many of us who live at a frenetic pace due to our jobs, families, and all of our other daily responsibilities.

You will find your faith affirmed, deepened, and expanded to include not just the "religious" experiences of church and community but the regular rituals of our daily routine that invite us to a greater awareness of and dependence upon God.

The book is readily available online both in print and digital forms. Please order a copy and begin reading ahead! If you need any assistance in getting a copy, please contact the Parish Office.



## ST. THERESE'S GUILD

Do you know what happens to the Altar Flowers after Sunday? St. Therese's Flower Guild breaks down the arrangements and makes several mini-bouquets that are placed around the church and delivered to people in the hospital!



At the moment, we have only two volunteers carrying on this caring ministry, and one will be recovering from knee surgery soon, and won't be able to get to church.

If you are interested in joining this creative and meaningful ministry, please contact the Parish Office at 865-483-8497. This is a rewarding ministry that needs new floral volunteers!

## CALLING ALL EARLY BIRDS!

Are you an early riser? Do you like to worship first thing in the morning and then have a true rest on Sundays?

We're looking for a few early birds who can be Lectors at the upcoming 7:45 A.M. service, starting August 15, 2021. We are down to just three people who serve on a regular rotation, so please contact the Parish Office to if you're available! It's a simple, yet powerful and meaningful ministry, and we'd love to hear your voice! Thank you!

