



St. Stephen's E-NEWS

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

July 30, 2021

10 Pentecost

Psalms 51:1-13

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:24-35

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sunday, August 1, 2021, we will have two services of **Morning Prayer**: 9 A.M. worship outside in the Grove, and 11:00 A.M. indoor worship and livestream in the Nave.



SUNDAY WORSHIP & CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: AUGUST 15, 2021

BEGINNING ON AUGUST 15, 2021

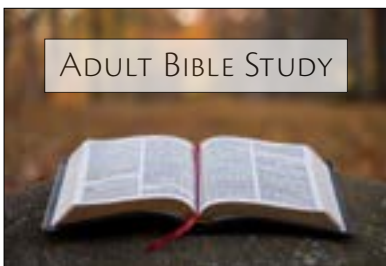
- 7:45 A.M.** Holy Eucharist Rite II, spoken service in the Nave
- 9:00 A.M.** Coffee and Refreshments (Parish Hall) / Choir Rehearsal (Nave)
- 10:00 A.M.** Choral Eucharist Rite II in the Nave (Nursery Provided)
- 11:15 A.M.** LUNCH
- 11:30 A.M.** Christian Education for All Ages (including Nursery)

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

The Tuesday adult Bible Study will begin meeting this **Tuesday, August 3, 2021**, at 10 A.M. The first study, after the long COVID19 hiatus, will be on the Parables of Jesus. Over the next few months, we will read and discuss 33 parables from the Gospels. Come join us in the Pollard Room. We'll have coffee together and discuss some of Jesus most familiar words.

~ Jim Rousey



PARISH CHOIR OPEN NIGHT

Simon Ballintoy, the Director of Music, is inviting interested singers to come to the Parish Choir Open Night, on **Wednesday, August 18, 2021**, at 6:45 p.m. Come tryout the choir and get a taste of our rehearsals and see if it's for you. You do not necessarily need to be able to read music, but an ability to carry a tune and be a team player is crucial to the ensemble! Choir sings every Sunday for morning worship, and at special services throughout the year. We have room for all voice parts! For more information, contact Simon at choir@ststephensor.org, or see him after worship on Sundays!



LUNCH VOLUNTEERS

Calling all St. Stephen's ministry groups and committees to volunteer to organize lunches after the late service starting **Sunday, 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](https://www.signupgenius.com) to send an email message. Thank you!

~ Rachel Kirk

PASTORAL CARE

THIS WEEK, WE PRAY FOR PARISH MEMBERS:

Don and Melissa Madgett, Gavin
Jean Mailen
Courtney Manrod

Please include these people in your prayers.

More news on page 2...



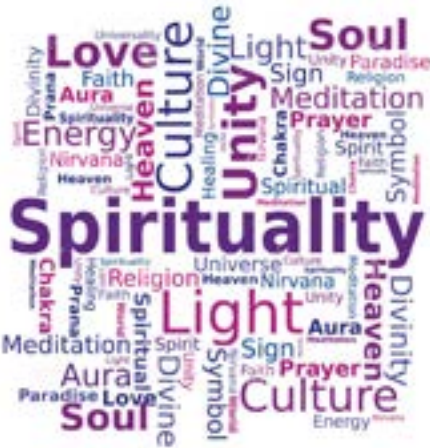
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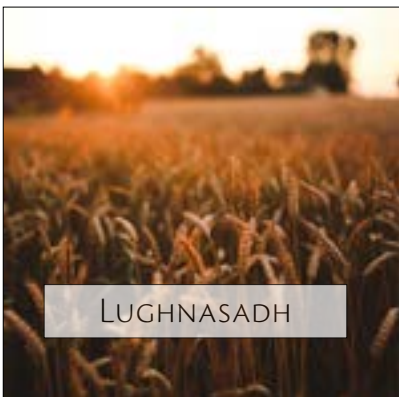
ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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.



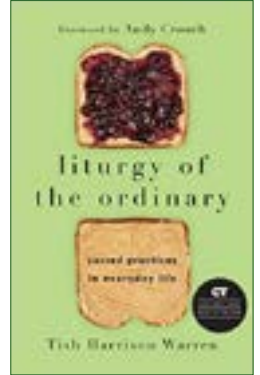
Please bring notebooks or pads of paper and something to write with because we will begin each exploration by writing about what these words mean to you personally. As people are willing, we will share as much or little of these writings as we are comfortable doing with each other. I look forward to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

THANKS FROM CLEARFORK

Dear Friends and Outreach Committee Members,

It is hard to believe that Camp Clearfork has just completed its fifth year in the valley. It seems like yesterday we were planning our first camp. Who would have thought during that time that we would have a pandemic that would change how we looked at the world? The one thing that did not change was your commitment and belief in this community and the youth we serve. Even though it has been two years since we were able to be together, it was just like yesterday, the love and compassion you always give to these kids shows that time has no meaning, when you truly care.



I believe we can change the future for these youth when we work together, and nothing has been more fulfilling than working side-by-side with each of you. You are all kind-hearted, selfless and exceptional friends, who I cannot thank enough for all that you have done. It will not be forgotten by me or by the kids you have helped.

Many blessings,

Tonia L. Brookman, Director

FUN FACT: LUGHNASADH

Did you know? This Sunday, August 1st is also Lughnasadh (loo-nah-sa) which is the astronomical midpoint between the summer solstice and autumnal equinox! It's an ancient Celtic festival marked the beginning of the harvest season that was historically observed throughout Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man. It was celebrated with great gatherings that included religious ceremonies, ritual athletic contests, feasting, matchmaking, and trading. Traditionally, there were also visits to holy wells. Now you know!