



St Stephen's E-News

Download the Printable E-News: [St. Stephen's E-News for August 4, 2023](#)

The Return of the Evangel

We are still working toward publishing the Evangel this month. Stay tuned!

Calendar for the Week

August 6, 2023 - The Transfiguration

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 8, 2023 - Holy Eucharist + Healing Service - 11:30 AM

This Sunday - The Transfiguration

This Sunday we celebrate the Transfiguration, which is the feast which commemorates the time that Jesus revealed His divine nature to His three closest disciples - Peter, James, and John - on a high mountain.

August 6th was chosen as it is the date of the dedication of the first church built on Mount Tabor, which is traditionally considered to be the "high mountain" of the Transfiguration. It is observed as a "red letter day" in the Book of Common Prayer.

As such, the worship service this Sunday will follow the lectionary for the Transfiguration. The ongoing celebration of Pentecost will return next Sunday. To learn more - [Click Here - The Episcopal Dictionary of the Church](#)

This Sunday - Celebrate Our Children and the Blessing of the Backpacks



Let's Celebrate our Children!

August 6 at 11:15 in the Parish Hall

Blessing of the Backpacks during the 10:00 service followed by a reception honoring our children in the Parish Hall.

Sponsored by Parish Life and Christian Education

Bring your backpack, diaper bag, briefcase, or whatever you take to school! All, regardless of age, are welcome to bring their bags to be blessed at the 10:00 service. Afterward, we will be serving punch, cookies and cupcakes, and light hors d'oeuvres in the Parish Hall. Please plan to join us!

Sunday, August 13th, 2023 - Honoring Adam Ballintoy



This celebration has been a decade in the works! It has been 10 years since St. Stephen's has sent one of our congregation off to Seminary - and now our own Adam Ballintoy begins his religious studies at Sewanee, and we want to send him off in style.

Adam Cavender will be fixing pineapple ribs on our grill, and there will be a few hamburger and veggie burgers prepared as well. Cheesecake is Adam's preferred dessert, which is being provided by Sherry Burchfield. Beverages will be provided.

We need your help! Please bring sides to share that are typical barbecue fare: slaw, potato salad, pasta salad, deviled eggs, baked beans, fruit salads, etc.

Mark your calendars and join us as we honor Adam with our well-wishes as he begins the next stage of his journey in Christ.

Ministry Updates

Walk Over Wednesday Returns - Wednesday, August 16, 2023



School has started - and with it, our Walk-Over-Wednesdays (WOW), serving high school juniors and seniors! If you are interested in joining, please contact Judith Delaney at delaneyj01@bellsouth.net.

This Week's Loose Offering

This week's loose plate offering will go to the Clergy Discretionary Fund.

Those Who Serve - Usher Training - August 12, 2023

One important service position in our parish is being an usher. Our ushers welcome everyone who comes in the door, so that each congregant feels the openness and warmth of the body of Christ. They distribute service bulletins, help those needing assistance to find seating, help with the offertory, and just do anything necessary to help with the service.

If you are interested in becoming an usher, or even just learning more about this vital role, please join us in the Nave on Saturday, August 12, 2023 from 9:00 - 10:00 AM. John Cox and Fr. Bailey Norman will lead a brief Usher Training session.

Contact John Cox at johncox2155@gmail.com to confirm your interest - we look forward to seeing you there.

New Lay Pastoral Caregiving Program Coming This Fall



Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Gal. 6:2 (RSV)

St. Stephen's Clergy and the Pastoral Care Committee are excited to announce a new lay pastoral caregiving program beginning this fall, which we are terming "Companioning." The goal of the program is to *equip parishioners to serve as supportive partners to persons going through difficult life challenges.*

We are planning to start the Companioning training in October 2023. More information will be forthcoming as we plan out the details. If you have any questions at this time, or to express possible interest in participating, please let Fr. Bailey or Fr. Ashton know.

Support our Blessing Box - This Week's Request: Peanut Butter

Please remember the Blessing Box when you shop. This week, we are requesting donations of peanut butter. 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)

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](#)