



St. Stephen's E-NEWS

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

May 5, 2023

SUNDAY SERVICES

St. Stephen's will observe **The Fifth Sunday of Easter on May 7.**

The Service Bulletins will be available to view and download from the [St. Stephen's website](#).

WEEKLY PRAYERS

WE PRAY FOR PARISH MEMBERS

Jane Heischman

Jonathan Heischman

Mary Helsley

Audrey Henry

Mark Henry

Please keep these people in your prayers.

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT THE PARISH E-NEWS

The E-News production team will be going through a transition for the next few weeks.

While we promise to keep bringing you the important news about St. Stephen's, it may appear in different formats in our newsletter and emails.

The E-News team appreciates your flexibility during this time.

Don't forget, if you have an announcement for E-News, please send it to editor@ststephensor.org by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesdays.

To request after-hours pastoral assistance, please dial the church at 865-483-8497, then follow the voice prompts to select "Pastoral Emergency" (Option 2).



Joyful fellowship marked the Vestry-sponsored luncheon and "Conversation with Father Bailey" following the 10:00 a.m. service on April 30. Top, Father Bailey talks movingly about the seven months of his medical absence and asks members of the Parish to share their thoughts about what directions they'd like to see for St. Stephen's. Below, Adam Cavender and Jim Anderson brave the smoke to prepare mouth-watering barbecued chicken. [Notes](#) from the meeting will be sent to parishioners in the near future.

CHECK YOUR EMAIL FOR RECENT GIVING STATEMENTS

Recently, giving statements for the first quarter were emailed from notifications@onrealmmail.org. If you don't see the email in your inbox, please check to see if it was routed to your junk mailbox.

Travelers going to London have received a separate statement for their payments toward the trip.

If you have any questions, please email Rachel Durfee at rachel@ststephensor.org.

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PARISH LIFE TO CELEBRATE PENTECOST WITH "HOLY GHOST WEENIE ROAST"



The goal of the Parish Life Committee is to provide opportunities for the congregation to come together in fellowship. We want to plan fun and meaningful events for our parish family, like the Mardi Gras Family Fete and the Easter Brunch.

Mark your calendars for the next event—the "Holy Ghost Weenie Roast" to celebrate Pentecost on May 28.

The Men's Group has agreed to man the grills that day as we serve up burgers with all the fixins', and of course—hot dogs! What a great way to end the school year!

YOUTH SUNDAY "TAKEOVER" COMING SUNDAY, MAY 14

We hope you can join us for our annual "takeover" of the 10:00 a.m. service known as Youth Sunday on Sunday, May 14.

We love to give our youth and children an opportunity to take leadership of our worship that day.

In addition, our own Caroline Wood, the Diocesan Youth Coordinator, will be leading our music that morning. Adam Ballintoy will be our preacher that day.

We look forward to seeing you there!

CALLING ALL 2023 GRADUATES

We want to list and recognize all of our graduates (high school, college, professional) on Youth Sunday, May 14.

Please notify the office no later than Tuesday, May 9 of our graduates. You may call the office at 865-483-8497 or e-mail at secretary@ststephensor.org.

SEEKING PENTECOST READERS (PERFECTION NOT REQUIRED)

Pentecost is rapidly approaching on Sunday, May 28.

We are asking for volunteer readers to help with a long-standing tradition at St. Stephen's: Like the event in Acts 2,000 years ago, we want the gospel proclaimed in as many languages as possible.

Those who have participated by reading in this service have found it incredibly moving.

Everyone reads together, so if your language skills are a bit rusty, no one will know.

If you are interested in reading at either the 7:45 or 10:00 a.m. services, please let the office know no later than Friday, May 21.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR CLEARFORK CAMP PREPARATIONS

Our preparations for our Clearfork camp are coming together. We request donations of old magazines, used paper bags for skirts, and snack bag contents. Magazines will be used for arts and crafts activities, while paper bags will be used for other fun activities.

As for the snack bags, we ask for non-perishable items such as granola bars, trail mix, and other healthy snacks to keep our campers energized throughout the day.

Donations can be dropped off at the parish office during regular business hours, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday.