



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

As part of the Wichita community since 1965, St. Stephen's is a relatively small, dynamic parish located in a residential neighborhood, bordered by an elementary school, in northeast Wichita. Our building serves the community not only as a great place to worship, but as a resource center for community activities and events. Several community groups meet daily, weekly or monthly at our facility. Neighborhood children play in our play area and our spacious grounds are visited daily by many four-legged friends and their walkers!

Our parish members are committed to supporting the church's goals and missions by enhancing current offerings and continuously expanding our community outreach. From young children filling the Sunday school rooms to book clubs and a devoted Daughters of the King chapter, we are all enriched by the diverse ages within our walls.

Community outreach takes many forms as well. Our youth groups are dedicated to supporting the elementary school within our neighborhood by collecting school supplies, hosting coat drives, and many other needs. Last year, some of our Sunday school children adopted residents of a local assisted living facility and provided them with Christmas cards and gifts as a way to serve others and share God's love.

St. Stephen's has an average Sunday attendance of 100 people. There are 121 baptized members and 156 communicants in good standing. Thirty children currently are enrolled in the Children's Sunday School, six Nursery attendees, and eight youth in Youth Group. The median age of St. Stephen's is 56.



A Little Bit About Wichita, Kansas

Located in south central Kansas at the junction of the Kansas Turnpike and I-135 with the Arkansas river bisecting the city, Wichita is a big 'little' city in the heartland of America that is filled with significant aviation and western heritage, arts and culture, and places to dine, shop, and play. With a population of approximately 500,000 in the metro area, this eclectic city has something for everyone while maintaining its Midwest values with friendly residents and affordability.



Century II and downtown Wichita



Downtown Wichita on the river



The Keeper of the Plains
on the Arkansas River.

From live performances and festivals to works of art, Wichita provides numerous options for cultural and artistic enrichment. At Century II, which is an iconic, multi-use facility, discover the talents of local and national artists at Music Theatre Wichita, which puts on several Broadway-caliber musicals each summer casting local talent as well as college students studying fine arts across the nation, and established professionals in the business. Broadway in Wichita keeps the Broadway momentum going during the fall and

winter months with touring Broadway shows. Wichita Grand Opera has its season from fall through spring and provides an opportunity for exceptional performances including an annual outdoor opera at the lake at Bradley Fair. The Wichita Symphony Orchestra also has its season from fall to spring with a few concerts presented more casually to the community, including a seasonal gathering annually with holiday favorites. Opera Kansas produces a series of modern and rarely performed operas throughout the state. Botanica is a local treasure that sits on over 18 acres in the middle of the city and provides opportunities for visitors to stroll through a myriad of gardens, watch butterflies emerge from chrysalis to a beautiful, winged insect, observe the habits of honey bees, with a multitude of special events throughout the year including Boo-tanica for the little goblins and Illuminations during the holiday season for a vista of colorful lights synchronized to holiday music. Each summer, various musical artists entertain the community at Botanica with performances at the weekly "Tuesdays on the Terrace".

Wichita is home to three universities: Wichita State University, Newman University, and Friends University as well as providing technical education and training at WSU Tech.



The Shakespeare Garden, Botanica



Exploration Place sits on the Arkansas River and boasts hands-on activities for young and old alike.

Wichita offers significant works of public art located throughout the city along with an internationally renowned collection of American art at the Wichita Art Museum, which is free to the public on Saturdays. Mark Arts is a vibrant regional arts hub that provides opportunities to appreciate and create art in an atmosphere of lifelong learning. Entertaining for all ages, Wichita's world-class museums include Exploration Place, a hands-on science center, Museum of World Treasures that houses dinosaur fossils and Ancient Egyptian artifacts, Kansas Aviation Museum, Sedgwick County Historical Museum located in downtown Wichita in a building listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Old Cowtown Museum, Mid-America All-Indian Museum, Great Plains Transportation Museum, Kansas African American Museum, and several outdoor venues to explore.

Wichita also claims one of the country's top zoos, the Sedgwick County Zoo, with 3,000 animals of nearly 400 different species and annual attendance exceeding 500,000. Sporting events do not escape the interest of this community offering Wichita Thunder

hockey games and the Wichita Wind Surge minor league baseball, which has a newly completed \$75+ million stadium. It will serve as an additional venue with the INTRUST Bank Arena and Century II. The community also has numerous smaller venues for comedic entertainment, theater groups, music, and spaces for rent for private parties. Within three hours of Kansas City and Oklahoma City, Wichita is a great hub for getaways and adventures, if you have exhausted all Wichita has to offer.

HISTORY OF ST. STEPHEN'S

St. Stephen's is part of the global church that has grown since the time of Jesus Christ. We are a Eucharistic community of the Diocese of Kansas, which is part of The Episcopal Church and The Anglican Communion. We are Christians, gathered around the font and the altar to worship, study, learn, pray and serve.

In the early 1960's, Wichita was rapidly expanding to the east and a group of visionary lay members of St James Episcopal Church began to investigate the possibility of establishing an Episcopal Mission in the new area. Bishop Edward C. Turner presided at the founding meeting on January 29th, 1962. At a meeting on February 6, 1962, the name "St. Stephen's" and the newly appointed Vicar, James Warner, were selected by prospective members.

Ten members of St Stephen's formed a corporation to purchase 39 acres of undeveloped land a few miles east of St James. The tract was subdivided into residential lots, which were sold to pay for the remaining 8.5-acre church site. In May of 1963, St Stephen's Mission was given parish status.

Ground was broken for the new church on June 21, 1964 and completed in 1965. Another



private investment company was created to fund the building by issuing mortgage bonds. Many of these bonds were later donated back to the church and made the existence of the building a quick reality. In the early 1990s, a renovation began to make the building more responsive to the needs of the parish. A new section provided a library, which was later converted into the current chapel, and office space as well as parish hall and kitchen expansions.

Beginning in 2000, St Stephen's conducted a successful fund drive which permitted the church to become debt free, establish an endowment fund (incorporated in 2017), and maintain the strong financial position it enjoys today.

Holy Spirit Chapel

In 2007 St Stephen's and St Alban's, an Episcopal church in Northeast Wichita began discussions about a merger, and this was accomplished using the St. Stephen's building. St Alban's brought an infusion of capital, which was designated for evangelism and outreach.

The community of St Stephen's has varied from a membership of as many as 450 people to a community of less than 35 families at one point in its history. It currently enjoys a steady membership, good relations with our neighbors and the Diocese, and maintains a positive outlook for our future. As a parish, we are committed to membership growth and program development for spiritual nurture, renewal and outreach to those in need.

As a church community entering a new era of ministry, we celebrate our Episcopal Church identity and rich, distinguished history of our past work and service in Wichita. At the same time, we feel that God is calling us into a new life in Christ and that we have been blessed with numerous resources to be used in service to God's Mission. The gift for which we are most thankful is our friendship, our caring and joy in being together as the people of God.

Previously serving clergy include:

1962-1970	Fr James Warner
1970-1979	Rev. Bob Layne with Jerry Jones as Assistant Rector
1979-1982	Fr. Colin Keyes
1982-2004	Fr. John Flora with Mother Joyce Holmes as Assistant Rector
2006-2013	Fr. Steve Mues with Mother Laurie Lewis as Assistant Rector
2014-2019	Rev Mary Korte

Current Vestry:

Interim Priest	The Right Reverend Michael Milliken
Sr. Warden	Anne Stephens
Jr. Warden	Dave Hudson
Treasurer	Lyndy Wells
Asst. Treasurer	Jane Mossman
Clerk	Amanda Shield
Vestry Members:	Jorinda Brant, Julia Hart, Mike Morrow, Joe Rothwell, and Robert Shurden

HOW WE WORSHIP

Rite One Holy Eucharist Service at 8:30 am in our Holy Spirit Chapel

When you arrive, you will come in the main red doors on the north side of the building. You may want to peek into the parish hall and follow the voices because usually there will be early service attendees chatting over coffee and a delectable treat before the service. Prior to 8:30 am, enter the chapel and sit wherever you like. Service bulletins are on the table to the left of the chapel door as you enter, and Books of Common prayer are tucked into the book holders on each seat.

At 8:30 am, the priest and chalice bearer will come into the chapel and the service begins. You can follow along in the bulletin and the Book of Common Prayer. Rite One is slightly shorter and is usually spoken without music.

The service essentially is two parts: a service of the Word and a service of Thanksgiving at the altar. During the first part, readings from the Bible are presented by a lector along with prayers. The second part is communion, when the priest leads the people in a prayer of thanksgiving for Christ's work of salvation, and we receive the bread and wine, which we believe are Christ's body and blood.

After the service, you will be welcomed to join the 8:30 group for more coffee and conversation in the parish hall.

Rite Two Holy Eucharist Service at 10:30 am

When you arrive, you will come in the main red doors on the north side of the building. The ushers will give you a bulletin, which contains most of the service and select music. The bulletin will provide guidance to the books used for parts of the service (The Book of Common Prayer and the Hymnal 1982).

This service is attended by a larger group of people than the 8:30 am service, including young families to older members. Music is provided by the organist, pianist, and sometimes special music, solos and other instruments. St. Stephen's choir sings from September through May and offers special pieces of music called anthems. The whole congregation joins in with hymns and with parts of the service.

Like Rite One, this liturgy is the Holy Eucharist also consisting of two parts, the service of the Word and a service of Thanksgiving. Sunday school is provided for children 3 years old through 4th grade, meeting in the Sunday school rooms and also a Youth Group for 5th grade to 12th grade who meet in the Youth Room. After the service, coffee and snacks are offered in the parish hall and all are welcome.

St. Stephen's has several special services:

- Ash Wednesday Service beginning of the Lenten Season
- Palm Sunday procession
- Maundy Thursday Service
- Good Friday Service
- Tenebrae
- Easter Sunday
- Ascension Day
- Blessing of the Animals
- All Saints
- Fourth Sunday in Advent
- Christmas Eve of the Nativity
- Christmas Morning Service



St. Stephen's members participate in many events:

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- Children's Easter Egg Hunt
- Neighborhood Ice Cream Social
- Vacation Bible School
- Blessing of the Animals
- EpiscoPals Dinner Club
- Halloween Trunk or Treat
- Daughters of the King
- Bible study
- Book club
- Sunday morning coffee hour
- Youth Mega Camp



Diocese of Kansas

St. Stephen's is a parish of the Diocese of Kansas, a community of 44 congregations and 10,000 Christians in the eastern third of the state of Kansas. The diocese includes the cities of Wichita, Topeka, Lawrence, Manhattan, and the Kansas side of the KC Metro area, as well as parishes in smaller towns in the region. Parishes may be high church or more evangelical, but all are in the broad middle of faithful Episcopalians who seek to be faithful followers of our Lord. The central house of worship for the diocese is Grace Cathedral in Topeka.

The diocese was founded in 1859, a year before Kansas earned its statehood. At first, the diocese encompassed the whole of the state. In 1901, as populations grew, the diocese was split into the Diocese of Western Kansas (running from Salina west to the Colorado border) and the Diocese of Kansas.

The Right Reverend Cathleen Chittenden Bascom was elected in October 2018 as the 10th bishop to lead the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas. She is the first woman to be elected bishop since the diocese was formed in 1859.



WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR IN OUR NEW RECTOR

According to our Ministry Profile Survey, St. Stephen's is seeking a rector called by God who demonstrates the following qualities:

- A rector who prepares and preaches thought-provoking sermons, based on a strong understanding of the Bible, and the ability to clearly explain readings through stories and/or analogies. Sermons that are applicable to everyday life, provide spiritual nourishment and, at the appropriate time, be somewhat humorous.
- A rector who wishes to successfully assimilate into our church and inspire a renewed vision. Someone that is honest and dependable, pastoral and thoughtful of those in need, and whose desire it is to know us and value our differences.
- A rector who helps in the development and support of all educational programs including those associated with our children and youth. Someone who can successfully integrate our members into the faith community through education and active participation.
- A rector who embraces the challenge of retaining and attracting new members. Someone who values the wisdom of tradition while embracing new ways of looking at issues and opportunities.
- A rector who works collaboratively and listens to hear all points of view.
- A rector who has a proven track record in leading and growing a church. Someone who values collaborative leadership with the staff, vestry and lay leadership.
- A rector who relates to our congregation and wishes to join us in our spiritual journey. Someone passionate for the gospel and in doing God's work in the church and the community.

MINISTRY and OUTREACH

St. Stephen's has a tradition of service to our church and community. Over 40% of parishioners are actively involved in one or more of the ministries.

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

- **Lectors, acolytes, and chalice bearers** are trained volunteers that serve at each service lighting the candles, carrying the cross, assisting the priest in preparing for communion, and reading the scriptures.
- **Musicians and Choir** consist of a talented group of volunteer singers led by our choir director and organist. Their joyful noise can be heard at the 10:30 service September thru May and at other special events and services throughout the year.
- **Altar Guild** is a group of dedicated volunteers that set up the sanctuary for Sunday services and other special ceremonies such as weddings and funerals. They maintain the church linens, vestments, and eucharistic vessels.
- **Ushers** serve at each 10:30 service greeting all who come, welcoming newcomers, and helping those who need assistance.
- **Lay Eucharistic Visitors** maintain contact with our homebound and senior facilities through calls, cards, and visits and administer the eucharist to those unable to attend services.
- **Daughters of the King** is a lay order with focus on prayer, service, and evangelism. Our local chapter meets the 3rd Sunday of each month to plan and discuss their outreach projects and assist the rector as needed to fulfill their commitment to strengthening the parish.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

- **Nursery** is provided for infants to 3 years old during Sunday services, choir practice, vacation bible school, and other special services as needed.
- **Sunday School** is a fast-growing ministry for children 3-5 years old, the “Littles”, and 1st-4th graders, the “Bigs”. It begins at 10:15 on Sunday with Children’s Chapel and continues through the church service until communion when the children join their families in the sanctuary.
- **Youth Ministry** is comprised of a junior ministry for ages 5th-8th grade, and a senior ministry for 9th-12th grade. They meet on alternating Sundays for bible study and quarterly for outside church activities. They also assist with services, help teach Sunday school, and lead various fund drives throughout the year.
- **Vacation Bible School** is held each summer and ministered to 40 children last year with support from 30 various volunteer parishioners.
- **Adult Bible and Book Study** meets every Thursday with focus on books of the bible and other contemporary Christian literature.
- **Education for Ministry (EfM)** is a four-year theological program sponsored by the Diocese that studies scripture, church history, and liturgy. Two parishioners recently graduated, and 8 others are currently in the program at different levels. They meet Monday evenings from September to May.



FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

- **Coffee Hour** is held after the 10:30 service with a selection of treats provided by parishioners for “Coffee, Tea & Thee”.
- **Book Club** meets every Thursday at noon to discuss books selected by its members. Paperbacks are also collected for the Homeless Ministry downtown.
- **Men of St. Stephen’s (MOSS)** meet for fellowship and host the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- **Dinner for Eight** participants take turns hosting a dinner for 8 in their homes each month

OUTREACH

- **Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services** serves those in poverty and with mental illness. Parishioners help stock the food pantry and fill the volunteer positions in meal preparation, employment services, the payee program for mentally disabled clients, and free tax preparation for low-income families.
- **Larksfield Place** is an assisted living facility where our lay visitors provide bi-monthly services
- **Alternative Gift Market** is an annual fund raiser that last year helped provide sewing machines to Dalit women of India
- **Price-Harris Elementary** is a neighborhood school for which our parish helps provide needed supplies for the teachers each school season.
- **Trunk or Treat** is an annual Halloween event with assorted treats and chili prepared by parishioners for our church and neighborhood families.
- **Annual Ice Cream Social** is held each June offering burgers, hot dogs, and homemade ice cream to our parish neighbors
- **Facilities are available** for monthly meetings for the North Rock AA group, Al Anon, Overeaters, and the Saltire Pipers

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Financial Summary

Our Budget	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
					(Budget)
Revenue					
Pledges, Plate and other gifts	313,158.00	303,027.00	332,847.00	318,434.00	315,532.00
Interest/Investment Income	2,277.00	2,162.00	2,132.00	2,142.00	2,145.00
Building Income	3,170.00	3,498.00	3,477.00	3,960.00	4,000.00
Other Income	1,121.00	26,635.00	(10,000.00)	1,807.00	3,000.00
Total	319,726.00	335,322.00	328,456.00	326,343.00	324,677.00
Expenses					
Rector's Salary & Benefits	104,055.00	106,941.00	106,573.00	101,346.00	55,600.00
Staff Salaries	51,720.00	55,017.00	54,148.00	49,460.00	50,000.00
Contract Staff Reimbursement	4,646.00	20,134.00	17,941.00	22,532.00	17,600.00
Taxes, Allowances & Benefits	3,979.00	4,368.00	4,381.00	4,193.00	6,985.00
Office & Communications	26,242.00	25,448.00	25,714.00	23,142.00	21,850.00
Other Administration	59,265.00	50,705.00	61,814.00	64,111.00	86,056.00
Program Expenses	8,726.00	9,840.00	5,964.00	1,433.00	4,287.00
Liturgy & Worship	9,234.00	2,743.00	2,268.00	1,093.00	2,020.00
Buildings & Grounds	65,442.00	77,994.00	64,260.00	66,861.00	67,400.00
Total	333,309.00	353,190.00	343,063.00	334,171.00	311,798.00
Net Expense/Surplus	(13,583.00)	(17,868.00)	(14,607.00)	(7,828.00)	12,879.00



The Mission of St. Stephen's: We are a community of hope, respecting and celebrating the value of all people and proclaiming the Good News that through Jesus Christ, God calls us all to share in His Kingdom on Earth.

For more information, please visit our website at www.ststephensec.org