

St. Stephen's Story

January and February 2018



**KORTE
KONNECTON**

Dear People of God,

As vestry members finish terms and new vestry members are added, we prepare each year by offering information to parishioners who are being vetted by the St. Stephen's Nominating Committee who are elected each year at the Annual Parish Meeting in accordance with the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas per Vestry Responsibilities. Questions? Please contact your Nominating Committee: Tom Steele (Senior Warden and Chair), Jorinda Brant, Don Norton, and John Rothwell at the January 7th coffee hour.

A Vestry candidate must be an adult communicant in good standing as determined by the Rector. They are members of the Parish as defined in Canon IV.5 and are entitled to vote in any Parish meeting. They must be persons who have received the sacrament of Holy Baptism, whose baptism has been duly recorded in this church. Who have received Holy Communion in this Church at least three times during the preceding year, have been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, (members who are truly active and supportive), attend regularly, and participate in other ways, including financially. They must also have either been confirmed or received in the Episcopal Church. Confirmation and reception basically mean that the person has made a mature public commitment and has taken on their baptismal vows that were made by their godparents.

During the past year, the by-laws of St. Stephen's Church, Inc. have been reviewed and compared with the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas. Any revisions of our current by-Laws proposed by the Vestry must first be submitted to the Chancellor of the Diocese and then to the Council of Trustees for approval before they are brought to a vote at the Annual Parish Meeting.

General Responsibilities for all Vestry Members

All vestry members should strive to the best of their abilities to:

- Have a love of God and demonstrate a commitment to following the way of Christ;
- Be active in and knowledgeable about the congregation, its programs and governance;
- Be fair, interact well with people and strive to earn the respect of the members of the congregation.
- Purposefully strive to "check one's ego at the door".
- Purposefully strive to be a servant of the people without the need to be the "most important person" in the congregation or the need to be the one with the right answers to everything.
- Have enthusiasm and vitality for this ministry.

All vestry members should be able to make the following time commitments:

- Vestry meetings, committee work;
- Vestry retreat(s);
- Weekly worship services (rotating occasionally if more than one);
- Congregational events: coffee hours, meals, fundraisers, adult education programs, etc.
- Diocesan meetings, as necessary;
- Annual meeting

All vestry members are responsible for:

- Offering talents to support the congregation's ministry;
- Praying daily for the rector, leaders and members of the congregation;
- Pledging financial support early in the stewardship campaign;
- Being active ministers of the Gospel in daily life and work;
- Bringing one's whole self to the table; being present—mind, body, and spirit;

Peace, Rev. Mary

St. Stephen's Sensational Youth Group

The youth group is gearing up for some exciting things coming up this first part of the year! We plan to do a couple outside of church activities like bowling or a movie. We are also planning a trip to Kansas City coming up at the end of the school year to do mission work and stay at the Great Wolf Lodge during our 'off' time.

I am hoping to integrate a more personal experience for each of our youth members by having them teach a class and/or pick a topic to be covered in one of our Sunday morning sessions.

In January, we have the EDOK event Miqra hosted in Kansas City again. Miqra is a real highlight for our youth and we are looking for a lot of participation for our kiddos this year, just as in the past.

That is all for updates now. In the meantime, we have been enjoying getting closer as a group and spending time together.

Sydney Runyan, Youth Group Director



What: Miqra

When: Saturday, January 13, 2018, 1 pm to Monday, January 15, 2018, 10:30 am

Where: St. David's Church, 3916 SW 17th St., Topeka, KS (unfortunately, the Cathedral will still be under construction in January, so we will need to do Mega-Miqra again this year.)

Who: Grades 6-12

Fee: \$55 (Scholarships available, see Sydney)

Priority Deadline: Friday, December 29, 2017 (price increases by \$15 after this date)

Registration forms: Youth and Adults can sign-up for Miqra here: <https://edok.formstack.com/forms/miqra2018>



Hi members of St. Stephens,

This newsletter finds a lot of good things that have happened at St. Stephens. The Greening of the Church was fun and helped to bring us together to decorate the church for the Christmas season. This year we added a 14 foot fully lighted Christmas tree. The tree was a gift from Criss and Joan Schulz. Thank you to the Schulz's. Thank you to all the members that helped to decorate the church. It didn't take that long and the Church looked beautiful.

The Building and Grounds Committee has been working on the exterior projects that keep our church looking good. The Church had to replace one of the furnaces on the flat roof a couple of months ago. Ouch that was about \$9,000. It should last a long time. We have a few more things to do but they can wait until warmer weather comes.

As this year comes to a close, I would like to thank all the members of the Building and Grounds Committee for all their dedication to our projects and for following through to see them completed. We will be making some changes in the members of the Committee soon. I'm sure the transition will be smooth and the committee will keep right on just taking care of St. Stephens. Happy New Year to all.

Mike Mann, Chairman, Building and Grounds Committee



January and February Celebrations

January Birthdays

- 1/5 Mallory Floyd
- 1/6 Melanie Shurden
- 1/7 Paul Seymour
Brad Vining
- 1/9 Amanda Shield
- 1/10 Suzanne Graham
Justin Hinsley
- 1/12 Chuck Shield
- 1/15 Lincoln Brasser
- 1/16 Rosalee Myers
- 1/18 Kathy Bishop
- 1/19 Tim Korte

- 1/24 John Myers
- 1/28 Dodie Seymour
Becky Mann-Samaniego
- 1/29 Kim Vining
- 1/31 Janice Benningfield
Denny Kruger

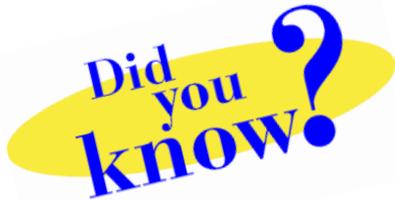
Anniversaries

- 1/11 Steve & Anne Stephens
- 1/15 Bruce & Lisa Schriefer
- 1/28 Dick & Earlene Foote

February Birthdays

- 2/1 Peter Caldwell
- 2/4 Liz Steele

- 2/5 Dick Foote
- 2/6 Maggie Benefiel
Macy Rothwell
- 2/8 Libby Marshall
- 2/9 Theo Vining
- 2/11 Diane Kruger
Wyatt Shield
- 2/14 Susan Gaskill
Amy Staples
- 2/16 Bill Thompson
- 2/19 Jim Lawing
- 2/22 Juliette Samaniego
- 2/23 Justin Cooke
- 2/25 Luke Staples
- 2/27 Lisa Schriefer
Ted Shurden



INQUIRIERS CLASSES

Beginning Sunday, January 14th—March 18th
at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room
for those interested in Confirmation, Reception
or Reaffirmation.

Classes will be offered by Rev. Mary and EFM Graduates
Nursery provided.

In Confirmation, baptized persons are “confirmed” in the Christian faith with a laying on of hands by the bishop. Confirmation in the Episcopal Church is a time when individuals who were baptized at an early age make a mature affirmation of the baptismal promises once made on their behalf. During a time of preparation, candidates for Confirmation learn about such things as church history, prayer, and Christian spirituality and beliefs. Most importantly, this time of preparation allows us to reflect on our relationship with God and God’s purposes for our lives.

Reception is a way for individuals who have been confirmed by a bishop in the Roman Catholic, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America or Eastern Orthodox church to be received into the Episcopal Church by our bishop.

Worshippers who have been baptized and confirmed in the Episcopal Church (or any member church in the Anglican Communion) may choose to reaffirm their baptismal vows with the bishop.



Tyler
Hart's
Baptism

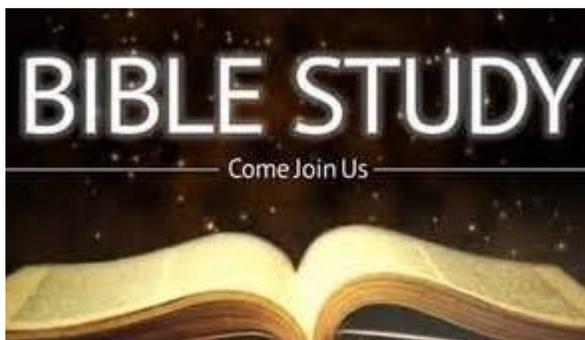


Wednesday, January 3rd, 5:30 pm
IONA Service with
**Special Intentions for
the Loss of a Pet(s)**
followed by a potluck in the Parish Hall.

The Buildings and Grounds Committee
invite you to assist in
“undecorating” the church!
Sunday, January 7th
following the 10:30 am service
and coffee hour.



**WE NEED MANY HANDS as MANY SEASONAL ITEMS
need to be taken down and stored from the front doors, narthex, Chapel,
Fireside Room, Parish Hall, Sanctuary and Sunday school rooms.**



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Evening Prayer at 5:30 pm
in the Holy Spirit Chapel.

**Bible Study at 6:15 pm in the Fireside Room
beginning February 21st through May 20th.**

*Please note: The 3rd Wednesday's will be in the Parish Hall
due to the Vestry Meeting in the Fireside Room.*



THE SHROVE SHOW
TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 13th
7:00 PM
COME FOR THE PANCAKES,
STAY FOR THE SHOW!!!
Good will offering for the
Music Program
Mardi Gras masks to be made
with children in the
Sunday school classrooms



MEN of ST. STEPHEN'S
HOST the
PANCAKE SUPPER
Tuesday, Feb. 13th
6:00—8:00 pm



SHROVE TUESDAY



"Good Will
Offering"
to benefit the
Music
Program



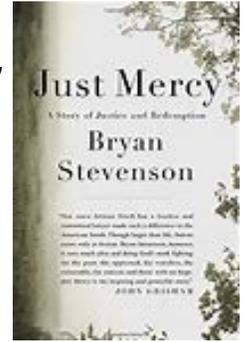
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 14th

6:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



The St. Stephen's Book Club will be reconvening on Thursday, January 4th. We meet weekly in the Fireside Room every Thursday at noon. The book we will begin reading in January is **"Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption"** by Bryan Stevenson.



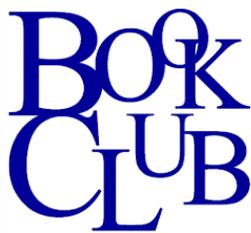
"NEW YORK TIMES "BESTSELLER - NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST NONFICTION BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY "TIME" - NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY "THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW "AND "THE WASHINGTON POST.

“A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice—from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time.”

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinksmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

Just Mercy is at once an unforgettable account of an idealistic, gifted young lawyer's coming of age, a moving window into the lives of those he has defended, and an inspiring argument for compassion in the pursuit of true justice.”

You are invited to join us - we love new members. We read and discuss books and on the third Thursday of each month, we go out for lunch as a group after Book Club. So, if you like good books, good conversation, stimulating discussions and good food – please join us!



Announcing Junior Daughters of the King:

The mission of the DOK Order is to extend the love of God to all people through prayer and service. Junior Daughters make a promise to do that every day, as do the Senior Daughters. “The Order gives us a special opportunity to grow in love and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ while serving our church and community.”



The Julian of Norwich Chapter of DOK at St. Stephens is studying the possibility of establishing a Junior Chapter of DOK at SSEC. We have been in touch with the DOK International Office and received materials outlining how to proceed. We have also received the approval of Reverend Dr. Mary Korte (approval of clergy is the first requirement for establishing a Junior DOK chapter). Next we must identify someone within our chapter to be Directress for the junior group and bring together three or more baptized girls or young women ages 7 to 21 who want to make this commitment.

“We hope to help each girl grow in her relationship with Jesus Christ and one another by the power of the Holy Spirit. Junior Chapters not only provide opportunities for girls to experience the joy of belonging to Christian fellowship with peers and mentors, but also discuss their faith, support each other, study the Bible and pray for their community and the world.”

We will be making more information available throughout January and establish a date for an information meeting for girls/young women and parents. We ask prayerful support from the congregation as we go through this discernment process. If you have immediate questions, you are welcome to contact Nan Myers, SSEC DOK Officer (nan.myers@ wichita,edu).

Alternative Gifts International Christmas Market



Although the final tally from the Market Day in November has not been reported yet, we can announce that St. Stephen's generously contributed almost \$400 in support of Kenyan girls transitioning to university.

This life changing program not only empowers young women by helping them personally escape child marriage and a cycle of poverty, but it also makes positive change for whole families and their villages, even for the Kenyan nation as a whole. Higher education makes it more possible for women to assume positions of leadership in all areas of life.

Thank you, St. Stephen's for your wonderful support of the Kenyan project and the Market.

Chairs: Melanie Shurden and Carol Fizer



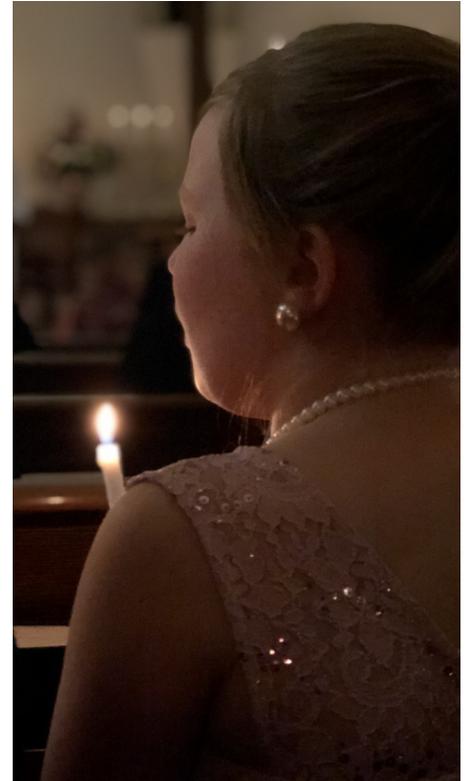
DON'T FORGET THE DOK LITTLE RED WAGON



Items needed for their pantry: pull top cans of chicken, meats, tuna, soups and vegetables; canned fruits; peanut butter; pasta and sauce; boxed/bottled baby food; packaged crackers (in sleeves); packaged cheese/crackers or peanut butter/crackers; deodorant (male and female); diapers and feminine hygiene items, travel size shampoo, lotion, tooth paste, tooth brushes, Drop in the little red wagon in the foyer and DOK will deliver! ***Thank you.***



All is bright!



All is calm!



Results of Visioning Exercise

as recommended by the Visioning Committee

INVOLVEMENT
Greeters at each service, in addition to ushers welcoming “kit” for new visitors for distribution by greeters.
Promote volunteering internal/external once a month, encourage more participation.
Share our talents with charities through the “buddy” system (i.e., someone who is presently volunteering at ESS invites someone new to join them).
VBS Sunday to involve the Ice Cream Social (to promote our church to the children and parents that are not presently members of our church).
LEGACY/FINANCIAL SECURITY
Legacy opportunities finalized to be “kicked off” by year end (Committee has been established and is currently working on project.).
Annual strong stewardship program and leadership from the congregation and vestry.
Capital campaign for building repairs, sound system, master plan for outdoor worship area.
VISIBILITY/COMMUNICATION
Promote through increased presence on Facebook web site, twitter, etc.
Tee shirts promoting St. Stephen’s.
Advertise our church and explore visibility opportunities available (explore advertising on KMUW radio).
EDUCATION
Invite other youth groups to participate in a quarterly event.
Encourage more parishioners to become Safe Church trained to increase availability of volunteers for children/youth activities.
Adult Bible Study Group.
FACILITIES/BRICK & MORTAR/ENHANCEMENT
Immediate need to paint the exterior of the church, need fundraiser (“paint by the foot”).
Improve sound system, suggested small steps to meet immediate needs.
Community Garden (Possibility of an Alleluia Grant from the Diocese for new project).

St. Stephen's Calendar January and February 2018

Wed-Jan 3	5:30 pm	IONA Service Special Intentions for the Loss of a Pet(s) & Potluck Supper	Sat-Jan 27	9:30 am	Worship Committee, Fireside Room
	7:00 pm	Buildings & Grounds Committee, Fireside Room	Thurs-Jan 25	Noon	Book Club
Thurs-Jan 4	Noon	Book Club	Sun-Jan 28	8:30 am	NO SERVICE
Sun-Jan 7	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite One		9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal		9:30 am	Inquirer's Class
	10:15 am	Children's Church School		10:15 am	Children's Church School
	10:15 am	Youth Group		10:15 am	Youth Group
	10:30 am	Holy Baptism & Holy Eucharist: Rite Two		10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	12:00 pm	"Un"Greening of the Church		11:30 am	Annual Parish Meeting and Potluck Lunch
Mon-Jan 8	6:30 pm	EFM, Fireside Room		2:00 pm	Larksfield Service
Thurs-Jan 11	Noon	Book Club	Mon-Jan 29	6:30 pm	EFM , Fireside Room
Sun-Jan 14	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite One	Thurs-Feb 1	Noon	Book Club, Fireside Room
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal	Sun-Feb 4	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite One
	9:30 am	Inquirer's Class, Fireside Rm		9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:15 am	Children's Church School		9:30 am	Inquirer's Class
	10:15 am	Youth Group		10:15 am	Children's Church School
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two		10:15 am	Youth Group
	12:15 pm	Pastoral Care Meeting, Fireside Room		10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	2:00 pm	Larksfield Place Service	Mon-Feb 5	6:30 pm	EFM , Fireside Room
Mon-Jan 15	6:30 pm	EFM, Fireside Room	Wed-Feb 6	5:30 pm	IONA with Potluck, Parish Hall
Tues-Jan 16	5:30 pm	Finance Committee Meeting, Fireside Room		7:00 pm	Buildings & Grounds Committee, Fireside Room
Wed-Jan 17	6:30 pm	Vestry Meeting, Fireside Room	Thurs-Feb 7	Noon	Book Club, Fireside Room
Thurs-Jan 18	Noon	Book Club	Sun-Feb 11	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite One
Sun-Jan 21	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite One		9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal		9:30 am	Inquirer's Class, Fireside Rm
	9:30 am	Inquirer's Class, Fireside Rm		10:15 am	Children's Church School
	10:15 am	Children's Church School		10:15 am	Youth Group
	10:15 am	Youth Group		10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two		2:00 pm	Larksfield Place Service
	12:15 pm	DOK Meeting	Mon-Feb 12	6:30 pm	EFM , Fireside Room
Mon-Jan 22	6:30 pm	EFM, Fireside Room	Tues-Feb 13	6:00 pm-8:00 pm	Pancake Supper & Shrove Show
			Wed-Feb 14	6:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service

**St. Stephen's Calendar
January and February 2018**

Thurs-Feb 15	Noon	Book Club, Fireside Room
Sun-Feb 18	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite One
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 am	Inquirer's Class
	10:15 am	Children's Church School
	10:15 am	Youth Group
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	12:15 pm	DOK Meeting
Mon-Feb 19	6:30 pm	EFM , Fireside Room
Tues-Feb 20	5:30 pm	Finance Committee Meeting, Fireside Room
Wed-Feb 21	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer, Chapel
	6:30 pm	Bible Study with Mike Morrow, Parish Hall
	6:30 pm	Vestry Meeting, Fireside Room
Thurs-Feb 22	Noon	Book Club, Fireside Room
Sun-Feb 25	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite One
	9:15 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:30 am	Inquirer's Class, Fireside Room
	10:15 am	Children's Church School
	10:15 am	Youth Group
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	2:00 pm	Larksfield Place Service
Mon-Feb 26	6:30 pm	EFM , Fireside Room
Wed-Feb 21	5:30 pm	Evening Prayer, Chapel
	6:30 pm	Bible Study with Mike Morrow, Parish Hall



Many thanks for the baked goods, cakes, candy, cookies, honey, liquid libations and cards, etc.

*The Korte Family
and Moxie*



Legacy Matters Planned Giving

St. Stephen's Legacy Committee is excited to announce the establishment of the

St. Stephen's Planned Giving Legacy Program.

The treasurer and members of the committee will be available on Sunday, January 7th during the coffee hour to answer questions about this program.

Brochures will be available.

Watch for more information!

LARKSFIELD PLACE

in the Meditation Chapel-2 pm

January 14th & 28th

February 11th & 25th



"Blessing of Homes",
January 5th—12th,
If you are interested in having your home blessed, please call the Parish Office.

Altar Flower January and February

Jan 7		
Jan 14		
Jan 21		
Jan 28		
Feb 4		
Feb 11		
Feb 18		
Feb 25		



Sponsor Altar Flowers, Memory Lamp, Sanctuary Lamp this is a great way to celebrate an event, a memorial for a loved one, or thanksgiving, as well as help support the parish. **SIGN UP SHEETS** are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Suggested donation for altar flowers is \$60, lamps \$5.



The 2018 Sign Up Sheets are on the Parish Hall Bulletin Board!

January and February 2018

Coffee, Tea and Thee

Alphabetically by Last Name



Jan 7	LAST NAME A—F
Jan 14	LAST NAME G—L
Jan 21	LAST NAME M—R
Jan 28	Annual Parish Meeting Potluck Dinner
Feb 4	LAST NAME S—Z
Feb 11	LAST NAME A—F
Feb 18	LAST NAME G—L
Feb 25	LAST NAME S—Z

Check the schedule for the week of your last name and bring your favorite treat (i.e., cheese/crackers, baked items, fruit, meat/cheese, etc.). The group will also be responsible for setting up the table with treats and for clean up (even if you don't bring treats you can help with setting up and clean up).



Annual Parish Meeting Sunday, January 21st

ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:30 AM

will immediately convene

following the 10:30 am service in the Parish Hall.

Potluck Lunch

If you name begins with the following letter, please bring a dish to serve 8-10.

A—I Meat or Main Dish

J—R Salad or Side Dish

S—Z Dessert

*We will need assistance in set up/clean up,
if you would be willing to help, there is a sign up sheet
on the Parish Hall bulletin board. Thank you.*



**SAINT
STEPHEN'S**



WICHITA

St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church

7404 E. Killarney

Wichita, KS 67206

Phone: 316 634-2513

Fax: 316 634-2580

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9 am- 1 pm

ssec@sbcglobal.net

www.ststephensec.org

The Rev. Dr. Mary J. Korte, Rector
Vera Aikman, Parish Administrator
Ashley Winter, Choir and Music Director
Aubree Brassler, Music Section Leader
Aubrey Watson, Organist
Julia Hart, Intermediate Church School
Abby Bishop, Primary Church School
Hazel LeVardi, Primary Church School
Mary Sinclair, Primary Church School
Sydney Runyan, Youth Director
Lise Van Arsdale Hansen, Nursery
Natalie Lemanski, Nursery