

ST. STEPHEN'S STORY

JULY & AUGUST 2018



KORTE KONNECTON

Summer is a needed time of rest and relaxation for many people. This break from the various responsibilities of home, work, or school is a good thing. However, I hope we will leave some time while on vacation, leave-of-absence, or sabbatical to follow God.

Jesus told his disciples, "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while" (Mark 6:31). This call also applies to present-day disciples. We are not superhuman. If we do not ever come apart, we will eventually fall apart.

All of us need times of rest, relaxation, and rejuvenation. Let's remember that Christ's call to his disciples to come away was a call to go with him to rest, not to go without him. So, vacate ... with Christ.

Here are several practical ways we can vacate with Christ.

Be marked present in corporate worship on the Lord's Day

I urge all to make every effort to find a Christ-centered, church to worship God on the Lord's Day, wherever we are on vacation or staycation. As we have made plans for food, lodging, entertainment, and the other things that may be important to us, make plans for corporate worship. We found a hotel to stay in. Find a church to go to. Be marked present on the Lord's Day. Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."

Don't rob God

If we work hard, save wisely, and plan prayerfully, we have every right to enjoy our times of vacation. And regarding stewardship Proverbs 3:9 exhorts: "Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce." Our vacation should not become an excuse to dishonor God with our finances. Please let's avoid putting ourselves in debt for the sake of a few days of recreation. Of course, enjoy ourselves and stay within our means. And continue to financially support the ongoing work of the church. Remember that the ministry of the church goes on while we are on vacation. So, don't rob God. And don't rob ourselves by wasting our resources and missing our opportunity to make spiritual investments.

Use our extra time on some things that have eternal significance

Our vacation time is a great time to get some rest, enjoy our favorite hobbies, catch up on personal reading, try some new adventure, or just hang out with family and friends. All these things have their place. How often have we said that we would pray more or read the word of God more if we just had the time? How often have we thought, felt, or said that we would do something for the Lord if we just had the time? Well, our vacation is an opportunity to serve the Lord. No, we don't have to spend all our time doing ministry. Let's just ask ourselves if we are willing to spend any of our time doing ministry? Paul exhorts, "Look carefully then how you walk not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph. 5:15-17).

Enjoy Ourselves

Yes, please do! I want to have a good time on vacation, enjoy the Lord's goodness and not feel guilt or shame about it. And don't let other people lay a guilt trip on you. God is not against our enjoyment of personal pleasure. 1 Timothy 6:17 tells us that God "richly provides us with everything to enjoy." God is the ultimate source of every good and perfect gift (James 1:17). God is the one that gives life and breath and all things (Acts 17:25).

God is not some cosmic-killjoy, set on stopping everyone from having a good time. The Lord is not against pleasure. So, enjoy the blessings of the Lord, the graces of life, the fruit of our labor, the opportunity to travel, and the company of family and friends and keep pleasure in its place. Or as 1 Corinthians 10:31 says, "So, then, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, **do all to the glory of God.**"

Peace be with you, Rev. Mary

Deacon Diane's Dispatch:

Greetings to all of my brothers and sisters in Christ at St. Stephen's! The past year, since my ordination, has seemed long to some, maybe very short to others. I am very excited to be returning to St. Stephen's in early August as your Deacon. It does my heart good to know I will be back to serve with a community I am familiar with and love. I've learned much during my internship year at St. James. I am deeply grateful to Mother Dawn, Mother Sarah, Deacons Peggy and Jeff for their guidance and patience with this new Deacon!

I have some ideas on things we can do as a parish to help those in need. If you also have ideas, please contact me and let's talk.

As I write this, I am on a plane from London back to the USA, after spending three weeks in Kenya, serving the poor and needy. Most of you are aware that I have been making this yearly trek for some time now. Some of you probably wonder why. Well, I feel the more people of all different nations and ethnicities we can get to know, the closer we come to knowing God. (More on that to come!)

It is summer—the time of year that many of us take our vacations, have the children out of school, and make an effort to relax more. I encourage that—please enjoy all your favorite activities of summer with family and friends. I would ask that you also slow down to spend some time alone with God, being quiet and listening. Listen for the still small voice that calls you to do more. More than you are doing now, more than you thought you could, more than you ever imagined!!

See you in August! I can't wait. Be well, be blessed, be you! Diane Kruger



Mark your
Calendar!

Sing with the choir this summer!

Summer Choir dates are

July 22nd and August 12th.

Any and all are welcome to join the choir for these low key and fun Sundays to sing the offertory anthem. Rehearsal is at 9:45 am.

Any questions ask Ashley
(ashleywinters79@gmail.com)!

See you there!

IONA Service
No service in July
Wednesday, August 1st

at 6:00 pm followed by a potluck
in the Parish Hall.

Join Rev. Jim Mitchell for
"The Benedictine Way of Living"
Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the
Fireside Room through Sunday, July
29th



LARKSFIELD PLACE
Meditation Chapel-2 pm
July 8th & 22nd
August 12th & 26th

July and August Celebrations

July Birthdays

7/1 Bob Fizer
 7/2 Laurie Dunk
 7/7 Donna Calbeck
 Tyler Hart
 7/11 Richard Samaniego
 7/17 John Rothwell
 7/19 Dane Kruger
 Barbara Thompson
 7/20 Adam Kice
 7/22 Bill Whitaker

7/25 Michael Henry
 7/27 Linda Stewart
 7/31 Devin Hansen

July Anniversaries

7/9 Bob & Melanie Shurden
 7/15 John & Casey Rothwell
 7/17 Peter & Reta Caldwell

August Birthdays

8/4 Richard Navarro
 8/5 Samantha Stephens
 8/6 Kayleigh Lewis
 8/7 Devon Rothwell

8/8 Nan Myers
 8/16 Anne Stephens
 8/19 Connie Acker
 Richard Shield

8/24 Tom Benefiel
 8/25 Alwyn Johnson
 8/27 Barbara Hansen
 8/29 Kitty Shield
 8/30 Parker Graham

August Anniversaries

8/14 Bob & Barbara Fizer
 8/20 Criss & Joan Schulz
 8/23 Al & Judy Higdon



As I reported at both services on Sunday, June 24, we have enjoyed a fiscally successful first half of 2018. Thanks to the generosity of many during the special campaign in the first quarter of the year, we have exceeded our budget expectations and our expenses have remained under budget.

In May, our receipts were less than the budgeted monthly amount so we actually ran a deficit for the month. June, July and August have historically seen revenue slow down and pick up again in the fall. It is helpful if pledge payments continue during the summer months as expenses certainly do.

We have certainly been blessed to see the response to the special appeal and are grateful for the extra gifts that have been provided. In the fall, the Finance Committee will begin the task of building the 2019 budget. Our wish list exceeds our resources, so we will continue to prioritize our projects to match our funding capabilities. As I mentioned last Sunday, The Episcopal Church Foundation will be consulted to give us advice on the best way to conduct a longer term funding effort and we will be discussing that issue in the next year.

Thanks again for your continued support of St. Stephen's and have a great summer!

Lyndon Wells, 2018 Treasurer

St. Stephen's Sensational Youth Group



The youth are all enjoying their summer vacations, but that doesn't mean our work stops there! We are keeping busy by staying connected in our Facebook group and coming together for events around the church like Intergenerational Sundays and VBS.

I would like to again give a huge shout out and thank you to all the youth that assisted with VBS and made it such a successful event. I know the littles love to see your faces and really look up to you. We are slotted to assist in with the Children's Sunday School on July 8th where our youth will once again have the opportunity to interact with our littles and take a leadership role in the parish.

Thank you also for all the youth who have volunteered to serve as acolytes at the altar during the summer!

We all look forward to continued rest and relaxation for the remainder of summer as we prepare for our youth group kickoff event with the Greater Wichita Area in September!

Sydney Runyan, Youth Director and Matt Anderson, Assistant Youth Director



New Chapter Instituted at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Newton, Kansas

The Diocesan Assembly of Kansas instituted a new Daughters of the King Chapter at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Newton, Kansas, on December 3, 2017. The Reverend Les Jackson received the Charter of Ruth chapter from *Nan Meyer, Diocesan Assembly Treasurer*, and accepted her

recommendation for admittance to the new Ruth Chapter of Kathleen Leid, Valinda Jackson, Elizabeth Hill, and Annette Bernard. The name "Ruth Chapter" was selected because Ruth was one of the women named in Christ's genealogy in the Gospel of Matthew. Her name is associated with "sacred loving kindness" and she acted in ways that promoted the well-being of others. SUMMER 2018 | *The Royal Cross* 41

Daughters of the King Update

We held our last meeting, June 24th with a potluck luncheon at the home of Judy Higdon. Thank you, Judy, for providing such a lovely, hospitable gathering place. The minutes and agenda from the meeting are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex next to the Fireside Room. We look back on a fruitful year.



The last few months, DOK has been honored to sponsor Fr. Jim Mitchell at the Adult Forum. His topic "Monks without Monasteries" has been very popular and a core group has been attending. Currently, Fr. Jim is continuing his study of the "Benedictine Way of Life" at 9:30 am on Sundays in the Fireside Room June 24th through July 29th. All are welcome to come! You may wish to visit Fr. Jim's blog <http://lightattheendofthetunnel.net/category/monkwithoutmonastery/> where you will find all kinds of useful information.

Many thanks to Nan Myers who has faithfully served as the Julian of Norwich Chapter Secretary at St. Stephen's for several years. Nan will be serving at the state level as incoming treasurer. We welcome and thank Barbara Fizer as our new Chapter Secretary. Our meetings will reconvene in September. Melanie Shurden



VBS SUNDAY





Chuck Shield, Senior Warden
 Anne Stephens, Junior Warden
 Lyndy Wells, Treasurer
 Paul Attwater, III, Asst Treasurer
 Mary Sloan, Clerk

Members

Jorinda Brant (2020)
 Joe Johnson (2018)
 Janice Knox (2020)
 Richard Samaniego (2019)
 John Staples (2018)
 Linda Stewart (2018)
 Ben Winters (2019)

VESTRY MEETINGS:

NO meeting in July

August 15th, 6:30 pm in the Fireside Room

Reminder for Vestry Members

If you are scheduled as Vestry in Charge for Sunday, it is important to be on time to open the doors. The duties are printed and a copy is on the refrigerator in the parish kitchen and the sacristy.

BE SURE ALL LIGHTS ARE OFF and

DOORS ARE ALL LOCKED PRIOR TO LEAVING.

If you split the early service and late service with another vestry member, please notify the Parish Office.

If you are away on the Sunday you are scheduled, notify the Parish Office.



VBS

Owen and Leland experimenting.

**Legacy Matters
 Planned Giving**

**St. Stephen's
 Planned Giving**

**Materials available in the
 narthex.**

**Or contact, Paul Attwater, Chair,
 316 734-9827**

**OUR FAITH
 OUR TIME
 OUR FUTURE**

**STEAK GRILLING AND CHILLING
 VOLUNTEER THANKS AND KICK OFF
 SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2018
 ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 AFTER THE 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE**

There are many among you who volunteer here
 You volunteer tirelessly and (usually) with cheer

Even though we ask you sometimes at the last minute,
 If it needs to be done, we can count on you to be in it.

You help teach our children or dry the dishes
 You plant or uproot stuff based on our wishes.

Some flip pancakes, some fetch donuts
 How coffee gets made is quite beyond us.

You decorate the church and then take it down
 You host fun things we do around town

You greet and usher and serve communion,
 Every Sunday is like a volunteer reunion!

Some of you sing and hit the right notes,
 Others play music great composers wrote.

You shuffle papers for mailings and fold the bulletins
 You lead classes and meetings no matter what
 room they're in.

You commit for a day, a month, or the year,
 When you see staff coming towards you, you cower in fear

It's not that you're "Done", you are overcommitted
 As you are kind, generous, gorgeous and quick witted!

Every great volunteer is in great demand
 Without you these little jobs can get out of hand

We know you have lives and it's hard to commit
 We hope the difference you make, makes all this..worth it.

The impact of your kindness brings many folks cheer,
 St. Stephen's volunteers: we are in awe of you this year!

Thank you, thank you, and thank you again,
 Well done, faithful servants, well done our friends!

St. Stephen's July and August 2018

Sun-July 1st Sat -July 14th		National Convention Austin, Texas
Sun-July 1st	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two The Rev. Kitty Shield, guest celebrant and preacher
	9:30 am	"Benedictine Way of Life" Fr. Jim Mitchell, presenter
	10:15 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two Rev. Larry Carver, guest celebrant and preacher
Wed-July 4th		PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
Sun-July 8th	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two The Rev. Kitty Shield, guest celebrant and preacher
	9:30 am	"Benedictine Way of Life" Fr. Jim Mitchell, presenter
	10:15 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two Rev. Larry Carver, guest celebrant and preacher
	2:00 pm	Larksfeld Place
Sun-July 15th	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two The Rev. Kitty Shield, guest celebrant and preacher
	9:30 am	"Benedictine Way of Life" Fr. Jim Mitchell, presenter
	10:15 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two Rev. Larry Carver, guest celebrant and preacher
Sun-July 22nd	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two The Rev. Kitty Shield, guest celebrant and preacher
	9:30 am	"Benedictine Way of Life" Fr. Jim Mitchell, presenter
	9:45 am	Choir rehearsal
	10:15 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two Rev. Larry Carver, guest celebrant and preacher
	2:00 pm	Larksfeld Place Service

Sun-July 28th	8:30 am	NO SERVICE
	9:30 am	"Benedictine Way of Life" Fr. Jim Mitchell, presenter
	10:15 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 am	INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY Holy Eucharist: Rite Two Rev. Larry Carver, guest celebrant and preacher
Wed-Aug 1st	6:00 pm	IONA service & Potluck in the Parish Hall
	6:30 pm	Education Meeting, Fireside Room
Thurs-Aug 2nd	6:30 pm	Buildings & Grounds Meeting Fireside Room
Sun-Aug 5th	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	10:15 am	Children's Sunday School
	10:30 am	Holy Baptism and Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
Sun-Aug 12th	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	10:15 am	Children's Church School
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	2:00 pm	Larksfeld Service
Tues-Aug 14th	6:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting Fireside Room
Wed-Aug 15th	6:30 pm	Vestry Meeting Fireside Room
Sun-Aug 19th	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	9:45 am	Choir rehearsal
	10:15 am	Children's Church School
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	2:00 pm	Larksfeld Service
Sun-Aug 26th	8:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	10:15 am	Children's Church School
	10:30 am	Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
	2:00 pm	Larksfeld Service

Altar Flower July and August 2018

7/1	Celebration of Fourth of July	Chuck Shield
7/8	Memory of Belle Rolph	Ric & Darlene Knorr
7/15	Memory of Robert Lawton Bryant	The Korte Family
7/22	Memory of Jim Knorr	Ric & Darlene Knorr
7/29		
8/5	Celebration Tom Benefiel's Birthday	Maggie Benefiel
8/12	Memory of Sally Hoesli	Hank Hoesli
8/19		
8/26	Thanksgiving for Diana Norton	Don & Karen Norton



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.



Coffee Hour Treats May and June 2018

Coffee, Tea and Thee



Alphabetically by Last Name

7/1	LAST name beginning G—L
7/8	LAST name beginning M— R
7/15	LAST name beginning S—Z
7/22	LAST name beginning A—F
7/29	LAST name beginning G—L
8/5	LAST name beginning M— R
8/12	LAST name beginning S—Z
8/19	VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION LUNCH
8/26	LAST name beginning G—L

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).

CHECK THE BULLETIN AND WEEKLY E-BLAST FOR ANY CHANGES!



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**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/Bookkeeper
 Ashley Winters, Choir and Music Director
 Aubree Brasser, Music Section Leader
 Aubrey Watson, Organist
 Julia Hart, Church School Coordinator
 Hazel LeVardi, Church School Coordinator
 Abby Bishop, Primary Church School
 Mary Sinclair, Primary Church School
 Sydney Runyan, Youth Director
 Matt Anderson, Assistant Youth Director
 Lise Van Arsdale Hansen, Nursery Coordinator
 Natalie Lemanski, Nursery

DE-STRESS!
 Take time to
 relax and enjoy
 the summer!

