

ST. STEPHEN'S STORY

March – April
2020



The Cedar of Lebanon

A Meditation
Bishop Michael Milliken



The tree whispered to me! I thought maybe it was the breeze – but it was the tree. “Come and climb”, she said. “I offer you my limbs and branches, become once more as a child. Climb, giggle, see the world from on high.”

She was a grand old tree. Strong limbs, sturdy branches reaching almost to the ground – she was solid!

A small sign said my tree was a Cedar of Lebanon. Cedar of Lebanon! Did Jacob or Saul climb such a tree as this when they were boys? Did Jesus play hide-n-seek with his brothers and sisters around another Cedar of Lebanon?

Did an ancestor of my tree provide wood for Solomon’s Temple? Is this how it served the Creator? Did it provide wood for the Cross? Did an ancient ancestor die to help bring about the salvation of all people?

My Cedar whispers again, “Come and climb”. But I don’t. I want to – my spirit says yes, but my body has another opinion. I don’t think of myself as old, but the hips, the knees, the ankles don’t bend and flex like they used to. The strength in my hands has lessened over the past few years.

The inner child says, “Go for it!” The practical, aging man says, “maybe later”, and knows he won’t.

There I stood, leaning on a lower limb, remembering days when I would be looking down from the top. Remembering long ago days of carefree energy and play. Sun or rain made little difference; we celebrated each in its own way. Remembering days when Steve and Teresa and Junior and Danny all vowed we’d always be together – friends for evermore. Alas, I have not seen them since 1959!

In the shade of my Cedar of Lebanon I long for my lost childhood, and marvel at how fast the days have gone by – when did I lose my childhood? When did I lose flexible limbs, the strong muscles, the boundless energy? Am I grieving? Yes!

As I lament my aging, my tree whispers again: “Someday, someday, you will climb. Someday your childhood will return. ‘You will renew your strength, you will mount up with wings like eagles, you shall run and not be weary. You shall walk and not be faint’. And I will be there waiting for you, my child”.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



BEGINS

SUNDAY, MARCH 8th



PARISH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 26th



If you were unable to attend but would like a copy of the Annual Report, please notify the Parish Office and one will be mailed to you. Pertinent information shared for the coming year and 2019 recapped.

Treasurer's Report

Following the Parish Annual Meeting, we have received some good news with additional funds having been identified due to \$3,700 in additional pledges and an adjustment to the budget that increased projected revenue by \$4,000.



Treasurer Report

January found that our pledge collections fell short of our budgeted number so that we suffered a loss for the month. Cash balances have been adequate to cover the shortfall, and early payments in February have helped catch us up. The Finance Committee has discussed the issue and will continue to monitor expenses to stay in line with revenues. The unfunded parking lot resurfacing in the annual meeting budget presentation has been approved by the Committee. The furnace replacement is proceeding, and that cost has been covered by a generous donor.

It appears our budget will be able to fund all of our most significant needs and we are grateful for everyone's continued financial support.

Respectfully, Lyndy Wells,

SUNDAY
March 29th
following the
10:30 am service.
Come casual!

Lunch provided for volunteers!



Message
from the
Senior Warden

Exciting things are happening at St. Stephens as we move into Spring. We actually held elections for the Vestry for the first time in a long time. Thank you so much to everyone who agreed to have your name put on the ballot. Each of the nominees would have made a great addition to the Vestry - bringing their own special gifts, talents and insights. I am looking forward to working with Bob Shurden and Joe Rothwell as new Vestry members and continuing to work with Amanda Shield as continuing clerk and newly elected voting member.

You may have seen a few new faces on the altar as we have welcomed Shaun and Rhea White and Alexia Eddie to the acolyte corps. We are so very excited to have you serving with us! I would also like to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested in serving on the altar as either a Chalice Bearer or an Acolyte to contact myself, Vera or Bishop Milliken and we will get you trained, fitted with a robe and added to the roster! As long as you can hold a candle/torch and walk without tripping, we'd love to have you!

As Bishop Milliken has noted, we are moving forward in the rector search process. The Vestry has given approval to the formation of a Search Committee and I have been working closely with Bishop Milliken to contact those who were suggested. Most have already been contacted and stepped up to help. Once the Search Committee is complete, they will begin working together to decide how best to involve the congregation in both a Parish Profile and a Ministry Profile. Some of the ways that the Vestry has talked about is having an all parish meeting, and/or online or paper surveys to get everyone's input. Please remember that this is YOUR parish and we want your input on the questions of "who we are as a parish" and "what qualities we are looking for in a new rector". Once the Search Committee has received the input, they will be charged with collating all of the responses into a cohesive document for publication. It is the intent of the Vestry to seek as much input from the congregation as possible as we move through the process of calling a new rector.

Anne Stephens, Senior Warden



Baptism
Sunday, Feb. 23rd

Calvin Christopher Vining



Vestry

The Rt. Rev. Michael Milliken, Interim Rector
Anne Stephens, Senior Warden
Dave Hudson, Junior Warden
Lyndy Wells, Treasurer
Jane Mossman, Asst Treasurer
Amanda Shield, Clerk

Members

Jorinda Brant (2020)
Julia Hart (2021)
Dave Hudson (2021)
Mike Morrow (2021)
Joe Rothwell (2022)
Robert Shurden (2022)

VESTRY MEETINGS:

March 18th

April 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. Front door to be locked for safety 10 minutes after a service begins. The duties are printed and a copy is on the refrigerator in the parish kitchen and in the sacristy. FOR SAFETY, BE SURE ALL LIGHTS ARE OFF and DOORS ARE ALL LOCKED PRIOR TO LEAVING.

Since the Christmas season, the children of St. Stephens have been busy learning about the childhood and early life of Jesus. In the month of February, we did a three week long unit on Boat Stories, which are all about lessons Jesus taught in a boat. The Littles' class, thanks to Hank and Tish, had a boat in their classroom.

Sunday School

Coming up on the Lenten season, we will be learning about the end of Jesus's mortal life, and his promise of eternal life. The Bigs' will be ending Sunday School 15 minutes early each week to go to the Chapel and participate in a Lenten Rock Confession unit.

This summer, we are looking to do a Brick By Brick, Lego-based Sunday School program. If you have spare Legos that you would like to donate to the Sunday School, please let Julia or Vera know. Please keep your eyes out at Estate Sales or Garage sales for Legos.

Thank you for the entrusting us to teach the children of St. Stephens the love of Christ.
Sincerely, Julia Hart, Hazel LeVardi, Tish Seely



Children's Chapel

Congratulations to Wyatt Shield for being honored as one of Wichita's Shrine Kids!



St. Stephen's Sensational Youth Group

Can you believe it's Spring already? I know our youth are ready for a fresh start and new beginnings.

In January, with youth help, we arranged the youth room for a more cohesive flow and to include the new donations we have gotten from our church family (*Thank You!*).

During Lent, we plan to join the Sunday School for special lessons in the chapel. We also plan to focus our efforts on our Holy Week Mural, and have it ready for Palm Sunday.

On Palm Sunday, we will be participating in the Passion Play and we look forward to our performances to come. (Volunteer to fill Easter eggs with candy after the service.)

We will also host the annual St. Stephen's Easter Egg Hunt, so be on the lookout for more information on this, coming soon.

That's all for now!

Sydney Anderson, Youth Director & Matt Anderson, Assistant Youth Director



Episcopal Diocese of Kansas Youth Ministry Upcoming Events

When: Sunday, May 31st, 2:30 pm to Saturday, June 6th, 11 am, 2020

Where: Camp Wood YMCA, Elmdale, KS

Who: Students in grades 3-12 for 2019-20 school year (you must have *finished* third grade to attend); Camp is NOT restricted to Episcopalians. All are welcome.

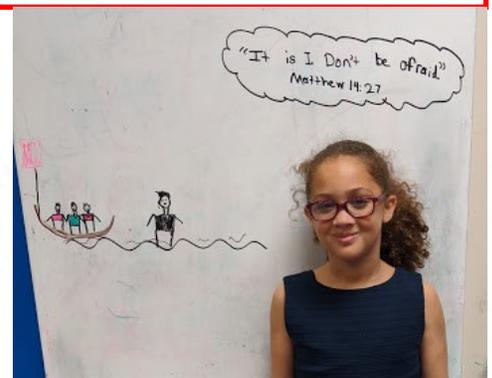
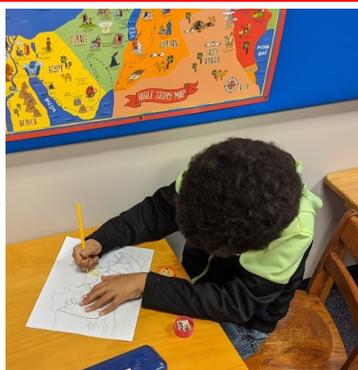
Cost: \$465 if you register by April 1st: \$480 between April 2nd-May 8th: \$495 after May 8th
There is a \$50 non-refundable deposit required at the time of registration, the remainder is due by Friday, May 8th. **Those needing scholarships should register for camp by April 1, 2020.** The diocese has 20 scholarships for \$150 available for those with *extreme* financial need. You can apply for scholarships on the registration form. Information about your household income will be required. Scholarships are awarded by a committee. **SCHOLARSHIPS ALSO AVAILABLE AT ST. STEPHENS.**



To fill the Easter eggs for the Children's Easter Egg Hunt.

Place your candy in the red tub in the narthex. Volunteers needed following the Palm Sunday service to fill the eggs in the Fireside Room.

PLEASE INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED & NO NUTS OR PEANUT BUTTER.



THE SHROVE PANCAKE DINNER & SHOW



Thank you to the Men of St. Stephen's (MOSS) for the delicious pancakes, sausage and bacon!
(Thank you, Don Norton for all the extra efforts!)

THANK YOU over \$2,500 donated



Thank you to Ben & Ashley Winters, Aubrey Watson, the St. Stephen's Choir for an awesome Musical Extravaganza.





Save the date Sunday, March 8th

On March 8th following the 10:30 service, we will be visited by the Coffee Cart from Legacy Ministries. Legacy Ministries is a very small non-denominational Christian non-profit that offers teenagers in foster care opportunities for creativity, work experiences and community. Legacy pursues its mission though providing employment, camps and outreach teams. Legacy intends to foster creative thinking by allowing program participants to engage in entrepreneurship, to learn to work in the arts and to work with nature. This is all geared to prepare foster teens for the day they age out of foster care and are on their own. Their programs are GardenWorks, PotteryWorks and CoffeeWorks. Daughters of the King are considering adopting Legacy Ministries as a service project.

On Sunday, March 8th, we will be treated to free coffee by the CoffeeWorks. These kids roast coffee beans, grind, package and sell them. They will be providing free coffee for our coffee hour and they will have coffee with them to sell (from \$8-\$12). Come on March 8th and learn more. www.legacy-ministries.com

Daughters of the King

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING is exploring a new service project working with Legacy Ministries, a small non-profit that offers children in foster care opportunities for creativity, work experience and community. Their programs include: Legacy Garden Works (work on an urban farm), Legacy Coffee Works (a roasting venture & sale of coffee beans), and Legacy Pottery Works (work in production of ceramics). In addition they offer summer day camps which include art and music. As an initial outreach, we have invited youth and sponsors from this group to visit with our congregation and serve and sell their coffee after the 10:30 am service on Sunday, March 8.

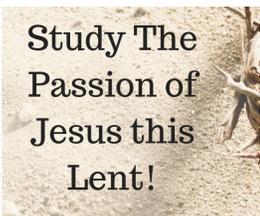


President Nan Myers is registered to attend the upcoming DOK Province 7 assembly in Kansas City, MO on March 27-28. Other chapter members may also attend. We have welcomed a new member in training with the Service for Beginning Preparation for Membership in DOK. And we have had our annual ingathering for the National DOK's Self-Denial Fund, which goes to their Mission Fund. In addition, we still work with Episcopal Social Services, delivering weekly the items left in the "little red wagon"; we deliver flowers from our altar weekly to SSEC shut-ins; and we pray daily for people and entities on the Prayer List.

As we prepare to enter the Lenten season, we would like to share our Motto of the Order: For His sake, I am but one, but I am one. **I cannot do everything, but I can do something.** What I can do, I ought to do. What I ought to do, by the Grace of God, I will do. Lord, what will you have me do?

Nan Myers, President

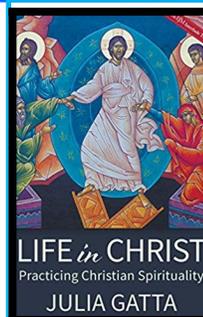
Study The
Passion of
Jesus this
Lent!



Lenten Book Study

During Lent, we will read and discuss the book Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week by Amy Jill-Levine. Because Holy Week comes and goes so quickly, Lent would be a good time to spend some time discussing the events of that week in order to better prepare for Holy Week. Classes will be on Thursday, beginning March 5th through April 9th from 4 to 5 pm in the Fireside Room.

Mike Morrow, Facilitator



SPRING BOOK STUDY

After Easter, a new Book Study 'Life in Christ (Practicing Christian Spirituality)'

Classes will be on Thursday, beginning April 16th—May 28th
4:00-5:00 pm

Teresa Ryther, Facilitator

Liturgical Calendar Lent and Easter

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT (3/1)

The Rev. Christine Gilson, Celebrant/Preacher

8:30 a.m. - The Great Litany and Eucharist I

10:30 a.m. - The Great Litany (in Procession) and Eucharist II

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Noon - Holy Eucharist in the Holy Spirit Chapel

2ND SUNDAY IN LENT (3/8)

8:30 & 10:30 a.m. - Penitential Order & Eucharist

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT (3/15)

8:30 & 10:30 a.m. - Healing Service & Eucharist

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT (3/22)

10:30 a.m. - **Note!!! One Service!!!**

Holy Eucharist

With Bishop Cathleen Bascom

Catered Luncheon following.

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT (3/29)

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY (4/5)

10:30 am - Note!!! One Service!!!

Blessing, distribution

& procession of the Palms

With Holy Eucharist &

Reading of the Passion Narrative

Service to begin outside, weather permitting

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK (4/8)

12 Noon Eucharist in the Chapel

MAUNDY THURSDAY (4/9)

7:00 p.m. Foot washing, Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar in the Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY (4/10)

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary

EASTER EVE (4/11)

5:30 p.m. - Lighting of the New Fire & Easter Vigil

In the Sanctuary

Service to begin outside, weather permitting

FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION

EASTER (4/12)

8:30 & 10:30 a.m.—Festive Holy Eucharist

Potluck Brunch 9:15 am—10:30 am

with Mimosas between services!

No Sunday School.

Nursery provided for those 5 and under
Easter Egg Hunt following 10:30 am service



“Fill the church with Easter Lilies”

If you would like to sponsor an Easter Lily for Easter, there will be forms available, sign up in the Parish Hall or call /email the Parish Office.

Plants may be dedicated in thanksgiving, memory or celebration.

Please write (clearly).

Plants to be taken home after Easter.

Suggested donation \$15.00 for 6” Potted Plant



SUNDAY, MARCH 22nd

10:30 am Service

(ONE SERVICE ONLY)

The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Bascom

will be our guest celebrant and preacher.

HEARTLAND MINSTER KICKOFF.

A catered (anonymous donor) lunch by Herford House

will be served after the service.

Meet and greet Bishop Cathleen.

St. Stephen's 2020 Calendar March & April 2020

	SPECIAL EVENTS	
Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week	Thursday's 4:00—5:00 pm Fireside Room	March 5th—April 9th Mike Morrow, Facilitator
Bishop Cathleen Bascom Celebrant & Preach Catered Lunch to follow	Sunday, March 22nd	<u>ONE SERVICE ONLY, 10:30 am</u>
SPRING CHURCH CLEAN UP	Sunday, March 29th	Following the 10:30 am service, Lunch for volunteers provided
VOLUNTEERS to fill the Easter Egg with candy	Sunday, April 5th	Following the 10:30 am service
EASTER Potluck Brunch with Mimosas	EASTER SUNDAY	9:15—10:30 am <i>between service</i>
Children's Easter Egg Hunt	Following the 10:30 am service	Outside by the playground
Life in Christ (Practicing Christian Spirituality)" "	Thursday's 4:00—5:00 pm Fireside Room	April 16th—May 28th Teresa Ryther, Facilitator
	MEETINGS	
BOOK CLUB	Noon, Fireside Room	Every Thursday
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	Noon, Fireside Room	Quarterly Meeting April 5th
DAUGHTERS OF THE KING	12:15 pm, Fireside Room	March 15th & April 19th
EFM	6:30 pm, Fireside Room	Mondays Through May 2020
FINANCE COMMITTEE	6:00 pm, Fireside Room	March 10th April 7th (1st Tuesday due to calendar)
VESTRY MEETING	6:30 pm, Fireside Room	Wednesday, March 18th Wednesday, April 15th
WORSHIP TEAM MEETING	Noon, Fireside Room	Wednesday, April 22nd
LARKSFIELD PLACE SERVICE	2nd & 4th Sunday's 2:00 pm	March 8th & 22nd April 12th & 26th

Altar Flower March & April 2020

03/01	Memory of Goldie & Earl Weaver	Karen Phillips
03/08	No Flowers	
03/15	No Flowers	
03/22	No Flowers	
03/29	No Flowers	
04/05	No Flowers	
04/12	Memory of Sally Hoesli	Hank Hoesli
04/19		
04/26		



Sponsor Altar Flowers, Memory Lamp, or Sanctuary Lamp 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 March & April 2020

Coffee, Tea and Thee



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).

Alphabetically by Last Name

03/01	LAST NAME A—F
03/08	LAST NAME G—L
03/15	LAST NAME M—R
03/22	CATERED LUNCH
03/29	ALL BRING TREATS
04/05	LAST NAME A—F
04/12	POTLUCK BRUNCH at 9:15 am
04/19	LAST NAME M—R
04/26	LAST NAME S—Z

CHECK THE BULLETIN AND WEEKLY E-NOTES FOR ANY CHANGES.



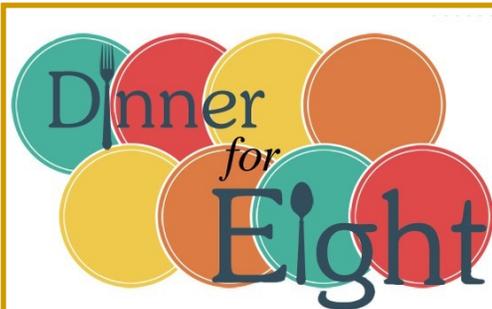
Wine Dedication March & April 2020

**Dedicate the Communion Wine in Celebration, Memory or Thanksgiving.
Suggested donation \$15.00. Donations help support the parish.
SIGN UP on the Bulletin Board in the Parish Hall.**

03/01		
03/08		
03/15	<i>Celebration of Janice Knox's Birthday</i>	<i>Gary Knox</i>
03/22		
03/29		
04/05		
04/12		
04/19		
04/26		

<p><u>March Birthdays</u></p> <p>3/5 Conner Cooke</p> <p>3/6 Bob Goree</p> <p>3/8 Dan Loftin</p> <p>3/10 Jorinda Brant</p> <p>3/12 Susie Hill</p> <p>3/13 Bishop Mike Milliken</p> <p>3/14 Kaylee McClellan Dagny Winters</p> <p>3/19 David Olson</p> <p>3/22 Julia Hart</p> <p>3/24 Dan Taylor Susan Taylor</p>	<p>3/25 Mike Mann</p> <p>3/27 Ellen Cooke</p> <p>3/29 Earlene Foote</p> <p>3/31 Barbara Fizer Kathy White</p> <p><u>March Anniversaries</u></p> <p>3/18 Leland Sinclair & Kirsten Johnson</p> <p>3/19 Lyndy & Marty Wells</p> <p>3/29 Eric & Audrey Kramer</p>	<p><u>April Birthdays</u></p> <p>4/6 Dale Graham</p> <p>4/7 Ashley Winter</p> <p>4/10 Paul Attwater II Honor Bates</p> <p>4/15 Laveta Abboud</p> <p>Deanna Klenda</p> <p>4/24 Marty Wells</p> <p>4/25 Mike Floyd</p> <p>4/20 Marshall Cooke</p>
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March & April Celebrations



If you would like to participate and/or host Dinners for Eight or you have questions, ***there is still time.*** Contact the Parish Office, Linda Floyd (785-213-8724) or Julia Hart (785-250-3045).

**GREAT FELLOWSHIP, GREAT FOOD and GREAT WAY TO
LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PARISHIONERS!**

A Potluck Easter

The celebration's extra
special when everyone brings
their special dish.>>

With Mimosas



**EASTER
SUNDAY
APRIL 12th**
*Potluck
Brunch*

9:15—10:30 am between the services

If your name begins with the following letter, bring a dish to serve 8.

- A—I Dessert**
- J—R Meat or Main Dish**
- S—Z Salad or Side Dish**

We will need assistance in set up/clean up. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. 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 Rt. Rev. Michael Milliken, Interim Rector
Vera Aikman, Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper

Ashley Winters, Choir and Music Director

Aubree Brassler, Music Section Leader

Aubrey Watson, Organist

Julia Hart, Hazel LeVardi, Tish Seely,

Church School Coordinators

Emma Bishop, Olivia Williams, Primary

Church School Assistants

Sydney Anderson, Youth Director

Matt Anderson, Assistant Youth Director

Lise Van Arsdale Hansen, Nursery Coordinator

Natalie Lemanski, Nursery

Nan Myers, DOK President