



ST. STEPHEN'S GOOD NEWS SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2021

“Do all such good works as [God] hast prepared for us to walk in” ...

We are just beginning a five week stretch of readings from the letter (AKA “epistle”) of James. This letter is often remembered for all its talk about “works.” In fact, September 5th we will hear one of its more famous verses: “Faith without works is dead,” (paraphrased from my memory). This letter is saying that the way we live out our faith is a response to our salvation.

At St. Stephen’s, we are entering a season of “works.” Some of these works will be through formation as we begin our program year. Children’s Sunday School will expand to include Children’s Chapel starting at 10:15 each Sunday in the Holy Spirit Chapel. Youth Group will kick-off again with twice-a-month gatherings for lunch and formation after church. I’m thrilled to be joining Youth Director Sydney Anderson in leadership of the youth. Bible study for adult formation will once again be meeting on Thursdays, and the “Education for Ministry” cohort will gather on Mondays. Forming our members as disciples of Jesus equips us all for doing the Good Works we are called to do.

Other “good works” will be very visible around the physical grounds of St. Stephens. We will be replacing the old wooden framed (and unfortunately rot stricken) single-paned windows with new insulated glass in aluminum frames. The old drafty wooden double doors at the south end of the parish hall (that act as an entrance for small critters) will finally be upgraded to match the glass door on the north end of the parish hall. The exterior of the church will be getting a new coat of paint. And we will be building an expansion to our Columbarium space in the Holy Spirit Chapel.

Thanks to the hard work of Amanda Shield, St. Stephen’s has applied to receive an “Alleluia Grant” from the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas. This grant is for “Senior Center Christmas Outreach” program which will involve the children of the parish putting together care packages. I am also excited to announce the St. Stephen’s Endowment earnings of over \$3k, will be made available for “Good Works” projects in the community as well.

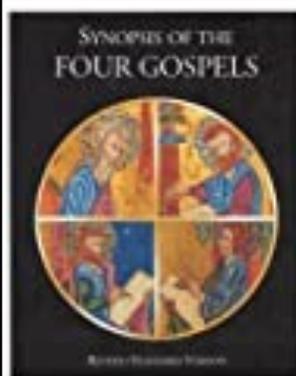
During my first year of seminary, I was beginning to be overwhelmed by being a new mom and my studies, which proved to be much harder than my bachelor’s degree. In the second semester, as despair was growing, we switched to using the Rite 1 liturgy in daily chapel. I can still remember vividly the day God’s comfort finally settled in my heart. The mid-day sun was shining through the west stained-glass windows in the historic 19th century chapel. Something made me turn to my left to look at the aged marble baptismal font, and I saw it was bathed in hues of purple and blue that looked like flowing fabric. Then as we joined together in the post-communion prayer, I looked back at the Prayer Book in my hands. The paper looked purple from my eyes having just stared at the font. The beige color of the paper



returned as we reached these words, “And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in.” (BCP page339) In those words I understood that God has already prepared for me to walk the path before me as a mother and a graduate student, then as a priest.

God has also prepared the path before us as St. Stephens Church. Let us step out on that path in a very living faith. And may all our “Good Works” be “God Works.”

~Mother Laurie



ADULT FORMATION—This fall, we will be comparing the 4 gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Using the book Synopsis of the Four Gospels (available on Amazon for \$23.98, a discount of 54%), which sets out the gospels side-by-side, we will see how each of the gospel writers reported the miracles, parables and stories of Jesus. We will examine the differences in the four different accounts, and especially look at those accounts unique to one of the gospels. For example, why is the story of the raising of Lazarus and the women caught committing adultery reported only in John? Why are the birth accounts in Matthew and Luke so different, and why is the birth not even mentioned in Mark or John? How do each of the four gospels portray the last supper, the crucifixion, and the resurrection of Jesus? This will be a great opportunity to ask questions participants may have regarding the differences in the gospels. The class will be lead by Mike Morrow.

We will meet beginning Thursday, September 9 from 5:30 to 6:30 in the Fireside Room. We will meet every Thursday through December 2, except for October 21 (Diocesan convention), November 4, and November 25 (Thanksgiving).

If you do not have an Amazon account, and want to place an order for the book, call or e-mail the church office.

Mike Morrow, Presenter

St. Stephen's September—October 2021 Calendar

REGULAR EVENTS		
ADULT FORMATION	Thursday	5:30—6:30 pm—Fireside Room
BOOK CLUB	Noon—Fireside Room	Every Thursday
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS	Sunday	October 24th—Fireside Room
DAUGHTERS OF THE KING	Sunday	September 19th October 17th Fireside Room—Phone
EfM	Monday	September 13th First Meeting 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall
ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE	Sunday, November 7th	Noon—Fireside Room
FINANCE COMMITTEE	2nd Wednesday's 7:00 pm by Zoom	September 15th October 13th
VESTRY MEETING	3rd Wednesday's 6:30 pm—Zoom	September 22nd October 20th
SPECIAL EVENTS		
KICK OFF SUNDAY	Sunday, September 12th	Bagpipes, Blessing of Backpack Clips Sunday School and Youth Group
BLESSING OF ANIMALS	Sunday, October 3rd	10:30 am Outside Service
BLESSING OF TRICK OR TREATERS	Sunday, October 31st	10:30 am service
TRUNK OR TREAT	Sunday, October 31st	5:30—7:30 pm
OUTSIDE GROUPS		
AEROTUNES	Friday	7:00—8:00 pm—Parish Hall
FLINT HILLS HIGHLANDERS	Tuesday	7:00—8:00 pm—Parish Hall
WICHITA CALEDONIAN PIPES	Thursday	5:45—7:45 pm—Parish Hall



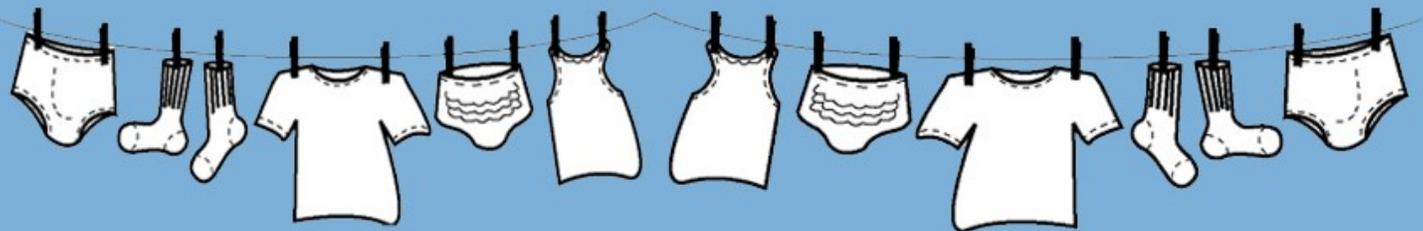
Hello Parish Friends,

Breakthrough continues to serve breakfast to those most marginalized in our community. The majority of folks we serve in the morning are homeless. While some are working with our staff to improve their circumstances, we hope and wait for others to come to the point of wanting to make a change for the better. Walking alongside individuals has been so important in our ministry!

Our breakfast program would gladly receive the following donated items: Large containers of juice, or frozen cans of juice; Fresh eggs, (Summer) Fresh vegetables (i.e., such as carrots, squash, peas, beans, paper goods such as napkins, cups, bulk coffee.)

We offer 15 showers/week for the homeless through the ShowerUp project. We have a dedicated volunteer team who will be trained to assist. Useful items include: Small hygiene items for showering, men's and women's underwear, toothbrushes and toothpaste

Items can be dropped in the little red wagon in the narthex and will be delivered to Breakthrough (ESS) by our DOK!



Undie Sunday

In support of the Wichita Minister (all the Episcopal Parishes of Wichita) and Breakthrough Episcopal Social Services support of ShowerUp, St. Stephens is going to hold "Undie Sundays" through at least September. This may become a more permanent outreach project, but let's really focus on it for the next 4 Sundays and see how many "Undies" we can collect.

ShowerUp (showerup.org/wichita1.html) supplies Mobile Shower Units to provide showers and personal care to those experiencing homelessness in Wichita and all of Sedgwick County. Clients are given hygiene products and clean underwear. Often an area barber is available to give haircuts and shaves.

Every Sunday in September, we will collect NEW adult under-garments (of all sizes) to help with this God-Work. This includes under-pants, under-shirts, sports-bras, and socks.

Turning Good-Works into God-Works!

~Mother Laurie

PLEDGE CAMPAIGN for 2022 STEWARDSHIP



KICK OFF
Coming soon!

ON LINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE

THROUGH "SIMPLE GIVE".

Click on this icon and donations may be made with any credit card and is directly deposited to St. Stephen's.

You can also visit our web site and going to the "Giving" tab and complete the form available. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office.



EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Education for Ministry (Efm)

Education for Ministry (Efm) is a four-year program that covers the core courses of seminary- Hebrew Bible, New Testament, Church History and Theology. Each year stands alone and course work may be taken over the four-year period or a year at a time with space between the years. Basically, whatever is more convenient for a person's life at a given time. While there is a large amount of reading and discussion, there are no papers to be written ever.

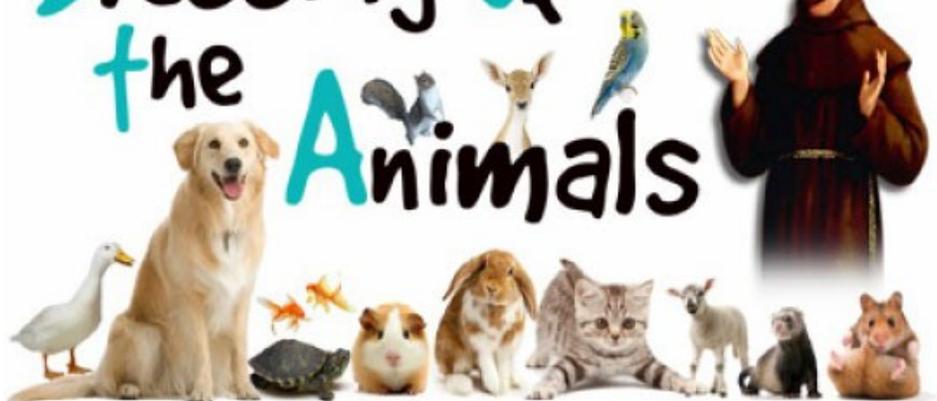
An additional part of Efm that is so wonderful is the community that is formed over the years. There is no way to fully describe this formation but people are always amazed how close they become over the four years. The other thing that they all gain is the ability to think theologically about the world in which they live.

We meet on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm in the Fireside Room from September to May. Each year costs \$375.00. This amount includes all books for the course of a given year. Scholarships are available which make the cost to each student \$175.00.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE Efm CLASSES THIS FALL AND MISSED THE INTRODUCTORY MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 30TH, PLEASE contact Kitty or Teresa

The Rev. Kitty Shield (316-655-1453) and Teresa Ryther (316-4617213)

Blessing of the Animals

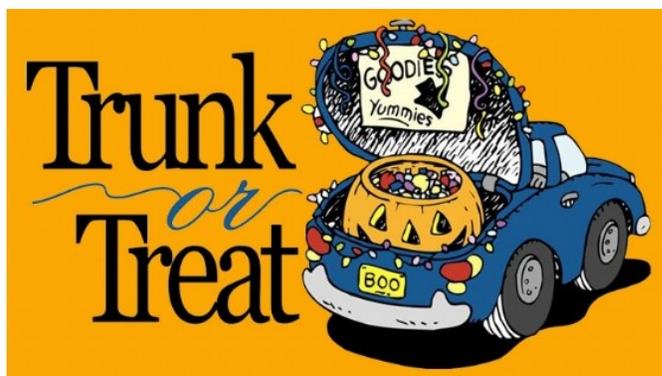


Sunday
October 3rd
10:30 am
Outside
Service under
the portico.

Bring your lawn chairs and your pets (leashed, please),
a favorite picture or your favorite plush friend.

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 31st
5:30—7:30 pm

In the well lighted
south parking lot.



*Decorate your trunks, come in
costume, and bring treats for our “Spooky visitors”!*

CHILI MINGLE—bring your favorite chili and “mingle”,
oyster crackers, and shred cheese!

Watch for more details and volunteer opportunities!

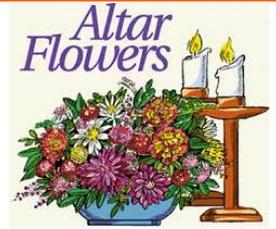
JOIN US FOR
SUNDAY
WORSHIP SERVICES

8:30 am
Holy Eucharist: Rite One
The Holy Spirit Chapel
10:30 am
Holy Eucharist: Rite Two
The Sanctuary

Altar Flowers Dedication September & October

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.
Call or email the Parish Office.

Suggested donation for altar flowers is \$60, lamps \$5.



9/5	Celebration of their Wedding Anniversary Thanksgiving for Bill White & Rick Gaskill for the Credence Table	Dale & Suzanne Graham Lora White
9/12	Memory of Ann Knorr Addison	Ric & Darlene Knorr
9/19	Memory of Alice Virginia Knorr	Ric & Darlene Knorr
9/26	Celebration of Matt & Sydney Andersons's Birthdays	Vera Aikman
10/3	Memory of Mitch Maska	Ric & Darlene Knorr
10/10	Celebration 67th Wedding Anniversary (Aug. 20th)	Criss & Joan Schulz
10/17		
10/24	Memory of Virginia Knorr	Ric & Darlene Knorr
10/31	Memory of Melissa Maska	Ric & Darlene Knorr



**To everyone who contributed to the Price
Harris Elementary School Supply Outreach!**
A special **THANK YOU** to
Sally Alefs for ALL tthe shopping!





Dear Sunday School friends!

Greetings! We have had a great summer learning about how to practice radical love, and to love others like Jesus does. We have also been excited about welcoming new friends to our class! Our church is growing! Please continue to welcome new families and pray for all of us!

We have exciting news for this fall. Beginning September 12th, we will be separating back into two Sunday School rooms. Hazel LeVardi and Tish Seeley will be teaching the "Littles" room (ages 3 years old until they begin first grade). And Julia Hart will be teaching the "Bigs" room (First Grade-until they begin sixth grade). We currently have two teen-helpers assisting in these rooms: Maddie Ramsey and TJ Lewis.

As we are continuing to work to keep our children as safe as possible during the pandemic, masks are required for all children three years and older, and we will be encouraging social distancing in the classrooms. Beginning September 12th and working through Epiphany, we will be talking about Old Testament stories, with a focus on God's covenant with us, and entering into social contracts with God! We are also planning on beginning to have Children's Chapel before Sunday School begins.

Children's Chapel will run from 10:15-10:25am in the Holy Spirit Chapel, with Littles and Bigs gathering together. The teachers will then take the children from the Chapel to the classrooms and class will run from 10:30-11am. When we dismiss class to the church service, we will continue to sit on rugs up front as a group until communion time!

Thank you all for your prayers and support for the children in our parish.

Julia Hart, Tish Seely, and Hazel LeVardi

The Sunday School program is looking for teen-helpers willing to serve as an assistant or a substitute assistant during Sunday School. This is a paid position or earn-service hours for school. Safe-Church certification is required (this is an on line certification and is easy, the Parish Office can set it up for you) and must be fully vaccinated against Covid. Please call the Parish Office, see Julia Hart or Mtr. Laurie. THANKYOU.



DILLON'S COMMUNITY REWARDS

If you shop at Dillon's, you can support St. Stephen's as your charity by using your Dillon's Reward's Card. For information or assistance in enrolling, call the Parish Office. Your Dillon's Rewards fuel points or coupons are not affected but "rewards" our parish!



***Donations received support our ministries.
We received \$302 for the 2021 second quarter, 45 families are enrolled.***

St. Stephen's Sensational Youth Group

The youth group is gearing up to start the 2021-2022 year! As a group, we have decided to only formally **meet twice a month after church** in the Parish Hall on selected days, and on every 5th Sunday of the month, have a special activity.



Please see below for the youth group calendar through December:

- September 12th and 26th
- October 10th and 24th
- 5th Sunday: October 31st (Halloween Party in youth room during Trunk or Treat)
- November 7th and 21st
- December 5th and 19th

Thanks again to all the parents and youth that attended our meeting Sunday, August 29th to plan for this year and beyond. We look forward to a fun, safe, and interactive year!



Brian's Baptism



Wyatt & Mtr. Laurie





Volunteers are always welcome as “LAY WEEDERS” to assist in keeping our grounds, trees, shrubs and flower beds in “tip top shape”. If you enjoy working outside and would like to help, let the Parish Office know and set your own time and day!



ST. STEPHEN’S BOOK CLUB

Waking up White, and Finding Yourself

in The Story of Race by Debby Irving , the current subject of our Book Club reading, has been a challenge. The author describes her long education into the dangers of white unawareness to the issues of race and culture. Our group, all white, has seen ourselves in the struggle and it makes for great discussions. We have a way to go both in the book and in our own journeys. We meet each Thursday at noon, currently in person (masked) in the Fireside room and would be glad to have more readers join us at any time. We are glad to add a telephone connection for anyone who would rather meet over the phone. Barbara Fizer



September & October Celebrations

<u>September Birthdays</u>		<u>September Anniversaries</u>		10/5 John Johnson
9/2 Brian Mutero		9/2 Dale & Suzanne		10/6 Larry Arbuckle
	Kirsten Johnson		Graham	10/10 Steve Stephens
9/5 Lucy Vining		9/4 Bill & Barbara		10/11 Tom Lewis
9/6 Paul Attwater III			Thompson	10/14 Linda Floyd
	Tom Steele	9/5 Les & Teresa Ryther		10/16 Mike Morrow
9/8 Ben Winters		9/12 Mike & Linda Henry		10/19 Cooper Winters
9/9 Carolyn Whitaker		9/14 Mike & Patti Mann		10/23 Bea Hutchinson
9/10 Violet Black		9/17 Ric & Darlene Knorr		Maddie Ramsey
9/18 Lyndy Wells		9/24 Tom & Liz Steele		Brielle Cooke
9/19 Shannon Mutero		9/27 Bryan & Violet Black		10/28 Jean White
9/21 Matt Anderson				
9/22 Linda Henry		<u>October Birthdays</u>		<u>October Anniversaries</u>
9/23 Rick Gaskill		10/1 Bruce Schriefer		10/11 John & Sally Alefs
9/26 Calvin Vining			Peggy Layne	10/20 Bob & Carolyn Goree
9/27 Leland Sinclair		10/2 Aubrey Resch		
		10/3 Sydney Anderson		



St Stephen's Endowment Committee

Newsletter – Parish Education
Gifting Methods & Opportunities

As you make your financial plans with your trusted advisors, have you included St Stephens in your plan?

Considering a gift to one of our two endowment funds is the perfect way to let the parish continue to write new chapters for years to come.

A strong endowment provides stability and consistency for the parish mission.

St Stephen's has established two Endowment funds for the purpose of securing our future and broadening our parish mission and outreach. Currently the General Endowment Fund is at \$121,289, and our Permanent Endowment Fund is at \$16,490. In addition, the Permanent Fund will be receiving a gift from the Earlene Foote memorial funds.

The Endowment Committee met and reviewed the distribution request from the Vestry submitted by Mtr Laurie. After discussion, the committee voted on making \$3,712.23 distribution from the Endowment Funds to be used for Parish Mission and Outreach. Endowment funds are not intended for operating expenses or maintenance of the Parish.

We would like to thank Lyndy Wells & Joe Rothwell for their past service and work on the committee and welcome new members Chris Graham and Kim Vining.

The Endowment committee plans to offer some parish education to help people better understand how your endowment gifts will be used and how they will not be used. Our Endowment can accept current gifts in any amount, but it truly serves as a fund that can accept your planned gifts from either your estate or retirement accounts. The ***St Stephen's Endowment Fund*** can be named as a beneficiary of your Will, personal trust, or Individual Retirement Account. The ***St Stephen's Endowment Fund*** can be an appropriate choice for directing your Memorial donations. Your current gift or future gift secures the long term mission of the St Stephen's parish. There are many options in how you can structure or direct your gift.

The Legacy Committee will be part of the Celebration Sunday on Sunday November 7th to highlight the fund, recognize donors, and provide giving education.

If you are considering a planned gift to St Stephen's please contact Vera in the Parish Office to set up a time for you to meet with a member of the Endowment Committee to discuss a strategy for funding the future of the Church. There are brochures available in the narthex and pew cards at the end of each pew.

2021 Committee Members: Mtr. Laurie Lewis, Paul Attwater-Chair, Anne Stephens-Sr. Warden, Dave Hudson-Jr. Warden, Chris Graham, Jason Hart, Criss Schulz, Kim Vining

2021 COMMITTEE MEETINGS – Noon - Sunday November 7th



SUNDAY
September 12th
10:30 Service

Wichita Caledonian Bagpipers
Blessing of Backpack Clips for Water Bottles
Sunday School and Youth Group Kick Off!



**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 Very Rev. Laurie Lewis, Rector
Anne Stephens, Vestry Senior Warden
David Hudson, Vestry Junior Warden
Jane Mossman, Vestry Treasurer
Vera Aikman, Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper
Ashley Winters, Choir and Music Director
Aubrey Watson, Organist
Julia Hart, Hazel LeVardi, Tish Seely, Church School
Coordinators
Sydney Anderson, Youth Director
Lise Van Arsdale Hansen, Nursery Coordinator
Natalie Lemanski, Nursery
Nan Myers, DOK President