

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

212 N. Tulane Avenue
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
Tel: 865-483-8497



The Rev. Larry C. Minter

INTERIM RECTOR

rector@ststephensor.org

The Rev. Dr. G. David Lovett

ASSOCIATE RECTOR

associaterector@ststephensor.org

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Damos

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Simon Ballintoy

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

choir@ststephensor.org

Caroline Wood

YOUTH MINISTER

YouthMinister@ststephensor.org

Cameron Ellis

TREASURER

treasurer@ststephensor.org

Elizabeth Pack

PARISH SECRETARY

secretary@ststephensor.org

Courtney Manrod

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CECoord@ststephensor.org

Craig Brent, Adam Ballintoy,

Mary Petersen

EPISCOPAL YOUTH

FELLOWSHIP (EYF)

EYF@ststephensor.org

Jim Ball

WEBMASTER

webmaster@ststephensor.org

Sharon Thomas

NURSERY SUPERVISOR

Courtney Manrod

SENIOR WARDEN

seniorwarden@ststephensor.org

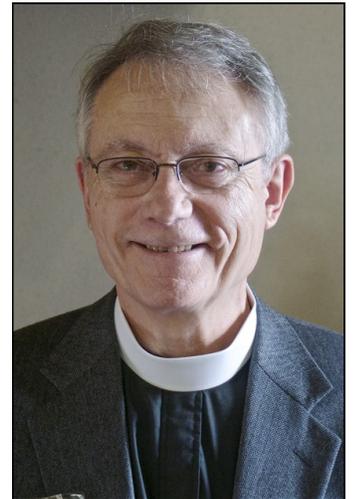
Barbara Steele

JUNIOR WARDEN

juniorwarden@ststephensor.org

“WHERE GOD IS SEEN, LOVE IS FELT, LIVES ARE CHANGED!”

That slogan has been on the sign out front and on every bulletin printed since my arrival in April, 2011. We have had discussion in the Vestry about a mission statement for St. Stephen's. This is not a mission statement as I understand them, but it does seem to express a great deal about what is found at 212 N. Tulane Avenue as people continue to gather to worship, learn, care, and serve.



God is seen here in each of our faces. Our God first became incarnate through the birth of Jesus our Savior. As we have come to learn, especially through these seasons of Advent and Christmas and now into Epiphany, God continues to be incarnate in the human hearts of each of God's children.

Just as we know the Epiphany message that “God is light and in him there is no darkness at all,” (I John 1: 5) the incarnation requires us to be Christ for others. So, the second part of the slogan becomes imperative. We hear from the same author, “God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.” (4: 16) For these nearly eight years I can attest to the fact that love is felt at St. Stephen's. You have loved me so well and I truly love each of you.

As you have read in the letter from Fr. Larry and our Sr. Warden of January 7, my time with St. Stephen's will come to a close at the end of February. My prayer for each of you is that you continue to love one another as you have loved me. Before long, a new priest will arrive who will lead this flock after Fr. Larry and I have both moved on. If you will follow that simple guideline, St. Stephen's will continue to be the beacon on the top of this Tulane Avenue hill it has been for the past seventy years.

Allowing God to be seen in you and giving the love of God to each that you meet, means lives will continue to be changed. I leave this wonderful post of ministry with great expectation of lives changed in Jesus' name for this year and many years to come. It has been the delight of my life to be able to serve with you. Continue that gift for all who will follow.

† Fr. David

A NOTE FROM FR. LARRY

One of the privileges of my ministry has been the ministry I share with Fr. David Lovett, as he has so faithfully and effectively served as Associate Rector at St. Stephen's. Along with my gratitude for his fine ministry in the whole parish, I also give thanks for the collegial ministry the two of us have shared. Fr. David has a heart for mission and pastoral care, as well as teaching and the many details of ministry. I know the staff will join me in expressing our gratitude towards him for being a part of our team in the office. Please join with the whole parish family as we set aside Sunday, February 24, for a celebration and thanksgiving for his ministry of seven years at St. Stephen's. The reception will follow just after the 11:15 service that morning.



I am looking forward to my last two months of ministry with you. One thing I am doing is teaching an Inquirer's Class for adults on Sunday mornings, starting January 20, 2019. Another ministry task I look forward to is leading the vestry retreat on Saturday, February 2nd. There are things to plan for calendars and schedules, so that many things will be in order through Lent and Eastertide. The work of the Search Committee continues, and the vestry continues their fine work of managing and leading the affairs of the parish. The ministry of Bread upon the Waters continues to welcome visitors, and new people keep discovering St. Stephen's. As I never tire of saying, I love talking about all that is going on in God's Name at St. Stephen's. And as Fr. David reminds us, we are all a part of a great parish where God is seen, love is felt, and lives are changed. † *Fr. Larry*

ECUMENICAL STOREHOUSE

St. Stephen's will be running the Ecumenical Storehouse during the month of February. One major change is that due to reduced client needs, we will serve clients only on Monday and Friday mornings.

Our **first day** will be Friday, February 1st to serve clients from 9:00 - 12 pm.

Our **first day for pickups** will be Saturday, February 2nd from 9:00 - 12:00 pm.

- * We would like to have more volunteers this year since we intend to have more clients on these two days.
- * Volunteers assist our clients in locating items they have requested throughout the Storehouse.
- * The items they select are recorded on our form to keep track of the items they have found.
- * Any items not found will require another visit to the Storehouse.
- * We will have other volunteers to help load the client's vehicles.

Please visit the Ecumenical Storehouse website to better understand what we do for our community:

www.thestorehouseinc.org/

Contact **Jim Kring** if you have any questions at 851-9994 or jbk4ut@gmail.com The Storehouse is located on the turnpike at traffic light #5 behind **Zaxby's**.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Ecumenical Storehouse in Oak Ridge has been serving families in need since 1984, Volunteers from eleven area churches take turns staffing the Storehouse. In 2016 the Storehouse ministered through the distribution of about \$350,000 of used household goods to 726 families with 2,249 members, including 1,043 children, during 1,418 visits to the Storehouse. While helping those in need, this ministry has also kept thousands of pounds of re-useable household goods out of dumps, making it a very 'green' operation.





NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATE RECTOR, REV. G. DAVID LOVETT

ADULT FORUM

January has been a good month for the Adult Forum as we have studied the work of Episcopal Migrant Ministries, refugee resettlement, and opportunities for ministry that we have at St. Stephen's. Thank you for all who attended and participated. We will now await the results of our study to see how we will put it into practice in Oak Ridge.

Be still, and know that I am God. (Psalm 46: 10)

February will be an exciting month for the Forum. Steve Herbes will be our leader as we explore the topic of Cultivating Christian Mindfulness.

Stillness is a diminishing commodity in our lives, yet it is through stillness of body, mind, and soul that we strengthen our capacity to listen to God's voice. Mindfulness is a practice that has been an integral element of religious and spiritual traditions for millennia. More recently, mindfulness has gained widespread attention in nonreligious settings, including mental health. In this four-week series we will explore: what mindfulness is (and isn't); the roots of mindfulness practice in the Christian historical tradition; how mindfulness seems to work in the brain and body; some basic techniques for cultivating a more mindful approach to life; and several contemporary practices of mindfulness-based Christian contemplative prayer.



Steve Herbes has 30 years' experience in several mindfulness-based meditative and Christian contemplative practices. He is a licensed professional counselor in private practice in Oak Ridge, working with persons experiencing loss and life transitions, and frequently draws on mindfulness techniques in his counseling work. He and his wife Liz have been members of St. Stephen's since 1977.

March 6 is Ash Wednesday. On March 10, a Lenten study will begin that will follow the materials from the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE). The title is "Growing a Rule of Life." This will be very appropriate for the season and will also give us something that we can use for the rest of our lives.

PRAYER FAMILY PICTURES

For seven years now we have been focusing our prayer efforts on a few families each week so that the entire parish can give special intercessions for each family. One aspect of this that has helped to keep those families in our focus has been having the families to send in current pictures so that we have a face with the names as we pray. The picture part takes some time each week to remind the families that they are being prayed for. And, then pictures are requested from them. The pictures are then tagged and printed and posted.

If you are interested in being the contact person for continuing this ministry, instructions are very simple for anyone with some limited computer skills. Please contact me soon so we can get you on board and this will continue through the calendar year.



FOOD BASKETS - SPRING DISTRIBUTION

Spring distribution is Saturday, March 9, 2019

Please place your contributions in the carts near the office area, the nave, or on the stage in the designed areas.

Food items: cornmeal, flour, sugar, rice, dry beans, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, macaroni and cheese, boxed cereal, oatmeal-instant, peanut butter, jam/jelly, apple sauce, fruit juice, granola bars, cheese crackers, peanut butter crackers, graham crackers, cake mix, cake icing, instant pudding, raisins.

Canned items: fruit, green beans, corn, peas, mixed vegetables, tuna, chicken, soup, Spaghetti O's.

Non-food items: toothpaste, bath soap, laundry detergent, dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, trash bags.

Monetary donations will also be accepted (please designate "Food Baskets").



Church Women United will meet on Friday, February 1, 2019 at First Presbyterian Church. Jeri L. Duke will present her book on the Underground Railroad. Fellowship begins at 11:30 am, followed by a brief meeting and presentation at noon. All are welcome. For details, contact Gay Marie Logsdon (logsburn@att.net).

To help people displaced locally as well as worldwide, Church Women United is conducting a Blankets+ campaign from February through April this year.

Thankful for past support, CWU encourages us to be generous again. Thus, St. Stephen's is collecting clean, gently used bedding for the Ecumenical Storehouse and cash donations for the national and global efforts. You may write a check to St. Stephen's and note "Blankets+" on the memo line.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, February 24, 2019 ~ Retirement Reception for The Rev. Dr. David Lovett

Friday, March 1, 2019 ~ World Day of Prayer

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 ~ Ash Wednesday

Saturday, March 30, 2019 ~ Parish Quiet Day, sponsored by the Daughters of the King

Sunday, April 14, 2019 ~ Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 21, 2019 ~ Easter Sunday

Sunday, May 5, 2019 ~ Last day for Christian Education, Sunday School and Sunday Adult Bible Study

Celebrations



BIRTHDAYS

2/4	Adam Ballintoy	2/15	Mary Jeanne French
2/5	Jamie Burnham	2/16	Katherine Etheridge
2/7	Rob Steele		David Felton
2/8	Kathie Shearer	2/17	Brent Sigmon
2/9	Mary Petersen	2/18	Bruce Marshall
	Parker Stanley	2/19	Audrey Henry
	Stewart Voit		Dan DiGregorio
2/10	Elizabeth Botica	2/21	Carol King
2/12	Jim Henry	2/22	Carol Skyberg
	Adolf King	2/23	Joe McGrory
2/13	Fiona Yearwood	2/25	Charles Jones
2/14	Eileen Hartley	2/26	Nathan Kruzic
	Greg Majors		Cammie Owens

ANNIVERSARIES

2/6	Linda & Lew Felton
2/18	Mary Nell & Jack Campbell
2/20	Kathy Moore & Dan Tuxbury
2/24	Emily & Chap Toomer



EYF IN FEBRUARY

February 3: Prayer Stations

February 10: Minute 2 Win It Games

February 17: Grace Point Junior Winter Session
Scripture Cookies!

February 24: Crafting Day! Painting, making God's eyes,
hanging out!

Calling all middle schoolers! Grace Point Junior Winter
Session is February 15th-17th! We will be talking about
how we love others and ourselves. Please register
at [https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/
form/1c1bpAg6VxJ](https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/1c1bpAg6VxJ).

EVANGEL EDITORIAL POLICY

We welcome articles of interest to the congregation. Publication
is always subject to space constraints; articles may be shortened
or edited if necessary. **Deadline for the following month's**

Evangel is the 15th of the current month.

Send to: secretary@ststephensor.org.