

ST. STEPHEN'S NEWS

Today Sunday, January 22, 2023

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

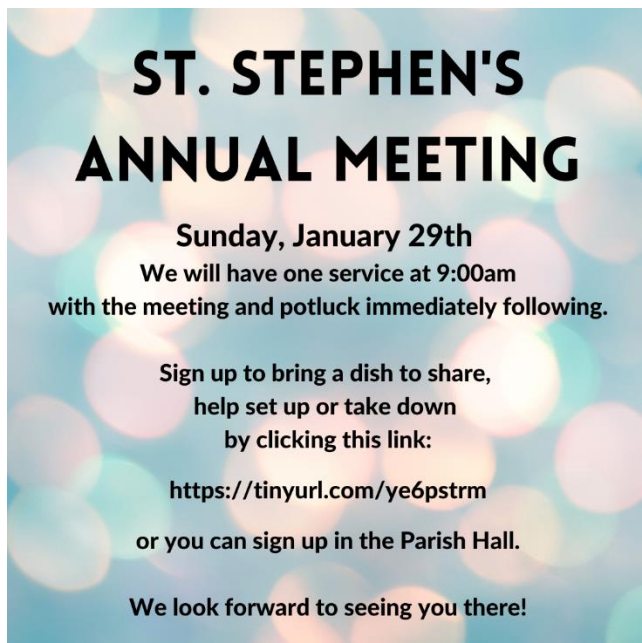
WELCOME!

If you are worshipping at St. Stephen's for the first time today, you are welcome to share in the Holy Communion. Please fill out a "Visitor" card at one of the Greeters tables and/or the guest book on the podium before you leave and get a welcome packet.

COMMUNION

If you are in need of a gluten free wafer during Communion, please let an usher know before the offertory or let one of the persons serving the host know. If you have a mobility problem, please let an usher know before the service begins and communion will be brought to you.

LOOKING FORWARD



**ST. STEPHEN'S
ANNUAL MEETING**

Sunday, January 29th
We will have one service at 9:00am
with the meeting and potluck immediately following.

Sign up to bring a dish to share,
help set up or take down
by clicking this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/ye6pstrm>
or you can sign up in the Parish Hall.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Vestry Slate

We are excited for the Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 29th, 2023 following a special 9AM service.

Part of the official business for the meeting is to elect 4 new vestry members. The Vestry Nominating Committee, which was convened in October of 2023, was composed of Sr. Warden, Sheri Flay, Jr. Warden, Steve Plote, outgoing vestry member, Jason O'Leary and parishioner-

at-large, Caroline Morgan. This committee worked diligently to identify future leaders for St. Stephen's and is pleased to present the following slate for election to the St. Stephen's Vestry each for three-year terms. We thank the Nominating Committee for their work and our candidates for their willingness to serve. Bios on pages 4-6 of these announcements.

Delegates for Diocesan Convention

Another piece of business at our meeting will be to elect delegates to represent St. Stephen's at our annual diocesan convention in Riverside, CA this November. St. Stephen's is entitled to three delegates one of whom must be a member of the Vestry. During the course of the convention, we hear reports on various ministries of the diocese, hear from Bishop Taylor & Canon McCarthy, have the opportunity to participate in workshops and vote on various resolutions that may be put before the convention including the Mission Share Budget. The convention begins on a Friday afternoon and typically runs through late Saturday afternoon. The dates for 2023 are November 10-11. This year's convention was in-person and is expected to be so again in 2023. If you are interested in serving as a delegate for convention please advise the parish office no later than Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

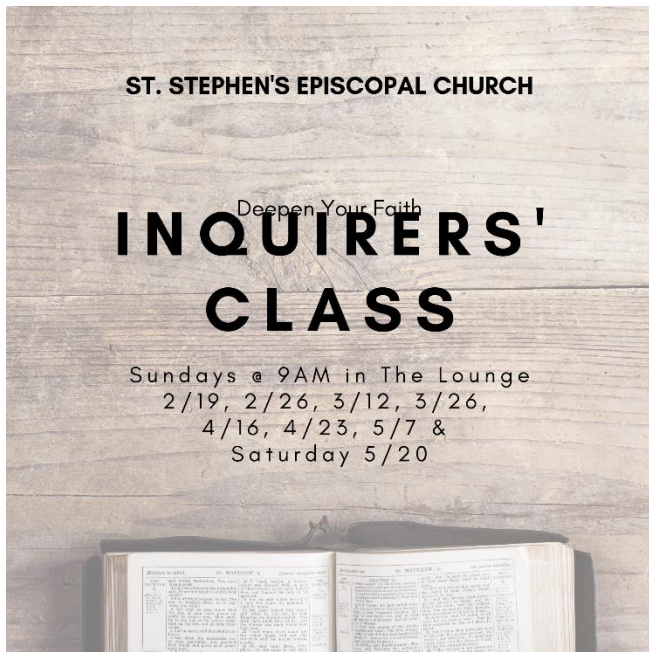
We also have a parish survey that we would like you to complete. Got to:

<https://tinyurl.com/28zxkxzm>



Pathfinders Resumes

Pathfinders, our youth group made especially for upper elementary-aged kids, is meeting again on Sundays. All kids in 3rd grade through 6th grade are welcome to join in fun activities, games and crafts centered around Sunday's Lectionary readings. We meet in conjunction with the older youth group, YESS, starting our meeting upstairs in the youth group room at 11:45am before breaking out on our own. We will follow the YESS schedule meeting on the Sundays that YESS meets. Please contact Julia Nelson at childrensministry@st-stephens.org if you are interested or have any questions.



Sat., February 4th,
9 – 11:00am
St. Stephen's Parking
Lot

CRITICAL NEEDS – New Items only:

- **Youth Socks & Underwear – All Sizes**
- **Adult Sweatshirts – L, XL & XXL**
- **Adult Underwear – All sizes; men & women**
- **Women's Fem Pads (any size)**
- **Laundry Detergent (liquid & pods)**
- **Boxes of Dryer Sheets**

NEEDED FOOD ITEMS (Order of need):

- Cans of Soup, Beans & Pasta Sauce
- Cereal; Pasta & Rice
- Canned Meat & Tuna (pull top)
- Individual Fruit Cups (low or no sugar)
- Snacks - Single Protein Bars, Granola Bars, etc.

NEEDED OTHER ITEMS:

- **"Hotel" Size Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner**
- Men's & Women's deodorant
- Women's Shave Cream & razors
- Bar Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner

We routinely donate to the SCV Food Pantry, SCV Family Promise, and Bridge to Home, amongst several other charitable organizations in Santa Clarita!

Sat., Feb. 4 is also our recycling collection! Please bring RECYCLABLE "CRV" glass, plastic, aluminum cans, & bottles.

**Bring pull tabs from cans of soda & food.
Bring Coke bottle caps.**

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



As we prepare for our upcoming Episcopal Visitation from Bishop Taylor on Sunday, May 21, 2023, Rev. Christopher will be leading an 8-session class beginning on Sunday, February 19, 2023 at 9AM in The Lounge. Classes will continue every other Sunday through May 20 with two back to back sessions in the beginning and two back to back sessions in the middle. The last class will be on the Saturday before the Bishop's visit. The specific dates are: 2 / 1 9 , 2 / 2 6 , 3 / 1 2 , 3 / 2 6 , 4 / 1 6 , 4 / 2 3 , 5 / 7 & Saturday 5 / 2 0 . This is open to anyone in the congregation who wishes to participate, including youth in 8th grade and up. It will serve as sort of an Episcopal Church 101 course for newcomers and will also be crafted to directly support those interested in Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation on May 21, 2023. To register:

<https://tinyurl.com/yh95rjpy>



SAGES MOVIE DAY
Thursday, January 26th
at 1:00pm at the Laemmle
Theatre

Contact Us

Rev. Christopher Montella - Rector:
christopher@st-stephens.org

Church Office: office@st-stephens.org

**Melanie Long – Director of Children's
Education & Formation:**
director@st-stephens.org

Vestry: vestry@st-stephens.org

TARZANA TREATMENT CENTER
& PFLAG SCV PRESENT:



VALLEY STREET SMARTS

TUESDAYS FEB 7 - MAR 14
4:30 - 5:30 PM

24901 ORCHARD VILLAGE ROAD

Free classes about substance use,
queer friendly sex education, and
how to make healthy life decisions

*FOR AGES 17-26

SIGN UP!



EARN UP TO \$30 IN GIFT CARDS!

St. Stephen's Prayer List

On-Going Needs: Joanne, Mary Lou

Current Needs: Susan, Byron, Wilson, Bree, Silvio, Liam and parents, Jake, Sister Miriam, Chrissy, Anthony, Uriel, Lucia, Ann Marie, Lucia, Cheryl, Kathy, Flo, Steve, Megan, Cis, Linda, Derek and family, James, Judy and Jim, Dorcas, Tracy and their families, Shari Vago, Pat, Gary, David and his family, Bob, Rob, Mary Lou, Hannah, Joy, Paul, Ty, Chris, Diane, Jonathan, Kathleen, Mark, Liam, Julie, Nicole, Barbara, Leslie,

Rest in Peace: Meg Byrne, Jeff Fikejs, Myke Kanis, Peter Haigh, Felicia Bagley, **Christina Johns, Kevin LaRoche**

If you would like to have prayers for yourself or someone else, please email Peggy Stabile at pstable@pegasus2.net or call the church office at 661.259.7307. Please be aware that your prayer request content will be shared with the members of the prayer chain. If you wish for Peggy to hold your prayer request in confidence, please clarify that in your submission. Prayer requests remain active for 4 weeks and must be renewed thru Peggy or the office to be on the list again.

St. Stephen's Week		January 22, 2023 to January 29, 2023	
TODAY'S SERVICES		7:4am & 10:00am	
SUNDAY 1/22			
7:45am	Holy Eucharist		
10:00am	Holy Eucharist (also streamed via Facebook Live) - VPOD Bob Gregor		
10:00am	Sunday School / Spurling Hall		
11:45am	Youth Group / Youth Room		
11:45am	Pathfinders / Youth Room		
3:00pm	Den meeting / Spurling Hall		
MONDAY 1/23			
6:45pm	Troop 2019 / Spurling Hall		
TUESDAY 1/24			
5:30pm	Den meeting / Spurling Hall		
WED. 1/25			
7:00am	Holy Eucharist		
9:30am	Circle of Gratitude via Zoom		
6:00pm	EfM / Room 8		
THURS. 1/26			
9:30am	Book Study / Sacristy & Zoom		
5:15pm	Den meeting / Spurling Hall		
6:30pm	Troop 2222 / Spurling Hall & Courtyard & Lounge		
7:30pm	Parish Choir rehearsal		
FRIDAY 1/27			
SAT. 1/28			
NEXT SUNDAY 1/29			
9:00am	Holy Eucharist (also streamed via Facebook Live) - VPOD Jay Clark		
9:00am	Sunday School / Spurling Hall		
10:30am	Annual Meeting and Potluck		
3:00pm	Den meeting / Lounge		



William Hendley

1. Your denominational history: Which faith traditions have you followed over the years?

Episcopalian. I was confirmed at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Kansas City, MO. When I was in college in Ft. Worth, TX I attended Trinity Episcopal and was active in their Canterbury Fellowship group. Most recently I was a member of St. Michaels and All Angeles Episcopal in Studio City, CA (which is where my daughters were baptized).

2. What is your personal life story and your professional/work experience?

I was raised in a Christian home in a suburb of Kansas City, MO. My parents divorced and both were remarried, so I have a very large extended family. I was very active in my church's youth group, Young Life and Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and it was around that time that I became a Christian. I went to college at TCU in Ft. Worth, TX and spent my summers working as a camp counselor at Pine Cove Christian Camp. After graduating college, I moved to New York City and worked in corporate public relations for five years before moving to Los Angeles. I worked for Universal Pictures for 14 years and have spent the past 9 years at Walt Disney Motion Pictures Studios in Burbank. While in L.A. I married Jon Albert, and we adopted our two daughters Rachel and Rebecca in August, 2019.

3. How many years have you worshiped at St. Stephen's? What Sunday Service do you most regularly attend? (7:45am or 10am)

My family and I started attending St. Stephens in 2020, and we attend the 10am service.

4. Please list your previous church service/ministry service at both St. Stephen's and other churches you may have belonged to. Groups or committees you participated in, leadership posts you held such as Vestry, etc.

At St. Michaels and All Angels I was involved with the church's annual Holiday Cheer event for impoverished families.

5. Why do you wish to serve on St. Stephen's Vestry? What special skills, knowledge or experience do you possess that you think will be useful as a Vestry member?

This is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen my commitment to the church and be able to give back to the parishioners and to the community as a whole.



James Mackey

1. Your denominational history: Which faith traditions have you followed over the years?

When I was younger my family did not regularly attend church. My dad was in the Navy for 27 years, so we moved every three years until I was 11 or 12 and then stayed in Southern California. I started to attend church more regularly with my wife when we were married. We attended a few and ended up at Montrose Church (Church of the Nazarene) for about 6 years. When we moved to Santa Clarita, we attend a few churches and ended up attending the Sanctuary Church

(a Foursquare church) for about 6- 7 years. We decided to leave the Sanctuary and ended up starting to attend St. Stephens about a year and a half ago.

2. What is your personal life story and your professional/work experience?

I have worked in the field of special education for 21 years. I have a Masters degree in Special Education, a Masters degree in school leadership/administration and a Bachelors degree in Liberal Studies. I taught middle school special education for 9 years and I have been an administrator for 12 years. I currently work

in the Hart district as the administrator for Sequoia School. (My family and I have lived in Santa Clarita for 11 years and I have worked in the Hart district for 7 years.)

3. How many years have you worshiped at St. Stephen's? What Sunday Service do you most regularly attend? (7:45am or 10am)

My family and I have attended St. Stephens for about a year and a half. We attend the 10 a.m. service on Sundays.

4. Please list your previous church service/ministry service at both St. Stephen's and other churches you may have belonged to. Groups or committees you participated in, leadership posts you held such as Vestry, etc.

I volunteered at Montrose Church to assist during services and set up/take down for different events at the church. I also served as an usher and was the lead usher at the Sanctuary Church where I handled the usual usher duties during services and helped with the scheduling/set up as the lead usher. I was also on the church council at the Sanctuary, which is similar to the Vestry. I have also served on the usher team at St. Stephens.

5. Why do you wish to serve on St. Stephen's Vestry? What special skills, knowledge or experience do you possess that you think will be useful as a Vestry member?

I enjoy serving at St. Stephen's and feel the serving on the Vestry would be a great experience. I feel like my background in school leadership will be helpful to serving on the Vestry, as I have worked with many families and have a variety of experience in the school district and the Santa Clarita community.



Dave Melton

1. Your denominational history: Which faith traditions have you followed over the years?

- I was Baptized into the Danish church in Argentina
- As a Boy Scout I was a member of the Central Lutheran Church in Van Nuys CA
- Dorene and I were married at St. Martin in-the-fields Episcopal Church, in Winnetka CA
- After moving to Santa Clarita in 1987 we, along with our 2 children, Doug and Dawn, Joined St. Stephen's in 1988
- Reverend Lynn Jay encouraged me to be confirmed

• I was confirmed in 1992 at Prince of Peace, Woodland Hills CA

2. What is your personal life story and your professional/work experience?

- I was born in Argentina. My mom is an American and my dad is an Argentine. Our family lived in Argentina until I was 12 when my parents decided to move to the US
- I grew up in the San Fernando Valley
- In high school I met my future wife, Dorene. We were married four years later, in 1974
- After high school I joined the United States Naval Reserve and served six years while also attending college
- During college I got a job as a computer technician with Comma Corporation and was very soon sent away to school for several weeks. I have attended many technical schools over my 44-year career
- I retired in January 2019

3. How many years have you worshiped at St. Stephen's? What Sunday Service do you most regularly attend? (7:45am or 10am)

- I have been attending St. Stephen's since 1988
- I usually attend the 7:45 service

4. Please list your previous church service/ministry service at both St. Stephen's and other churches you may have belonged to. Groups or committees you participated in, leadership posts you held such as Vestry, etc.

- When first coming to St. Stephen's I served as an usher for several years
- I have been and currently am a member of the Facilities committee
- I am currently a member of the Technology committee
- I have been the leader of the Men's Group and am currently an active member
- I have served on the Bishop's Committee as Facilities chair, Stewardship committee member, Peoples Warden and Bishop's Warden
- I served as the leader of the Transition Committee when we worked to become a Parish
- I also served on the Vestry in several positions including Junior Warden and Senior Warden
- I served as Scout Master for Boy Scout Troop 609 here in Santa Clarita

5. Why do you wish to serve on St. Stephen's Vestry? What special skills, knowledge or experience do you possess that you think will be useful as a Vestry member?

- I think my knowledge of the Vestry and the committees gives me a good perspective to be able to contribute to our Parish
- My work experience in technology will help me help St. Stephen's connecting with the world beyond our campus



Leslie Smith

1. Your denominational history: Which faith traditions have you followed over the years?

I was raised Roman Catholic, and was received into the Episcopal Church in 1991, at All Saints Pasadena.

2. What is your personal life story and your professional/work experience?

I was born in Stockton, California, and raised in Sacramento. I graduated from UC Santa Barbara with a BA in history. I worked in retail management for several years and worked at Talbots in Pasadena when my boys were little. Speaking of which, I have been married for 33 years to my husband Allen, and I am the proud mom of Ian (25), who works in marketing, and Brendan (27) who is a CPA. They are my pride and joy! In the late nineties, I returned to school to pursue a teaching credential, which I received through National University. I have taught in the Sulphur Springs School District since 2000. Most years, I teach 4th grade, 5th grade, or a 4/5 combo! In 2011, I received an MA in American Literature from Cal State Dominguez Hills. In 2019, I completed the Education For Ministry program.

3. How many years have you worshiped at St. Stephen's? What Sunday Service do you most regularly attend? (7:45am or 10am)

I have worshipped at St. Stephens since 2000, usually attending the 10 AM service.

4. Please list your previous church service/ministry service at both St. Stephen's and other churches you may have belonged to. Groups or committees you participated in, leadership posts you held such as Vestry, etc.

I was a parishioner at All Saints Pasadena from November of 1991 to August 2000. I have taught Sunday school, served on the Children and Families committee, participated in EFM, and I am a member of Daughters of the King.

5. Why do you wish to serve on St. Stephen's Vestry? What special skills, knowledge or experience do you possess that you think will be useful as a Vestry member?

I wish to deepen my involvement with the St. Stephens community. My experiences in education and the business world will be useful in my service as a vestry member.