



ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
223 E. 4TH STREET N., NEWTON, IA 50208  
PHONE 641-792-6971

June 2018

## St. Stephen's Beacon

From the Desk of  
Rev. Karen Crawford

As I scurry down the aisles of Hy-Vee or walk the corridors of hospitals it is not unusual for me to hear, Bless you Sister, Hello Father, are you a nun? I treasure those moments when I can say, "Hello, thank you," and then explain that I am a priest in the Episcopal church. Many times, especially in the midwest, this response is met with a puzzled expression and the comment, "I don't know that church". I then have an opportunity to tell our story. It is the story of a faith community which truly believes and practices the fact that we are all God's children and are created equal in God's sight. All are invited to the table, all are invited into leadership roles, all are loved and honored for who and what they are.

The royal wedding with Presiding Bishop Curry's fiery sermon focusing on love has many people wanting to know more about the Episcopal Church. This historical event provides us the perfect opportunity to say, "that's my church, and I love it because..." In 2016 Bishop Curry reflected on what we proclaim as the good news of Christ.

*These are his words:*

"As Christians, we believe that all humans are created in God's image and equal before God – those who may be rejoicing as well as those who may be in sorrow. As a Church, seeking to follow the way of Jesus, who taught us, "you shall love your neighbor as yourself," (Mt. 22:39) and to "do to others as you would have them do to you" (Mt. 7:12),

we maintain our longstanding commitment to support and welcome refugees and immigrants, and to stand with those who live in our midst without documentation. We reaffirm that like all people, LGBT persons are entitled to full civil rights and protection under the law. We reaffirm and renew the principles of inclusion and the protection of the civil rights of all persons with disabilities. We commit to the honor and dignity of women and speak out against sexual or gender-based violence. We express solidarity with and honor the Indigenous Peoples of the world. We affirm the right to freedom of religious expression and vibrant presence of different religious communities, especially our Muslim sisters and brothers. We acknowledge our responsibility in stewardship of creation and all that God has given into our hands. We do so because God is the Creator. We are all God's children, created equally in God's image. And if we are God's children, we are all brothers and sisters. "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You," is not just a slogan, it's who we seek to be and the witness we seek to make, following the way of Jesus."

*This is our story.*

*I invite you to share it.*

Memo from BARRY HURTO

*As some of you may know, I am assuming the leadership of the Jasper County CWS/CROP organization upon the retirement of Terry Townsend of Sacred Heart Church. CROP is responsible for hosting and carrying out the annual CROP Walk the first Sunday of October to help combat hunger in the United States and abroad. It is my hope that we can reactivate interest in this most worthy event with some of the former churches in Jasper County who used to be regular participants.*

I am asking the parishioners of St. Stephen's to consider being part of an organizing committee to help make this happen. I am looking at holding an organizational meeting in June as October will be here before we know it. If this is something you might find of interest and hopefully of importance, can you please notify me either at church, home (792-2425) or via email at bhurto@yahoo.com as soon as possible? Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration. The decision to serve should require a minimum amount of your time leading up to October. Also, Carol Mackey, longtime treasurer for Jasper County CROP, is going to be retiring as well. Would anyone be interested in taking over reporting the financial matters of the group? Anyone who has had this kind of experience would be warmly welcomed by sharing their time and talent.

**Summer Ministry School & Retreat**  
**June 22-24 at Grinnell College**  
*Fun, learning and Worship for the whole family!*



Anniversaries in the month of June  
 11th Jim & Kay Clements, 21st Rev. Karen Crawford—ordination

Birthdays in the month of June  
 1st Nancy Henderson,  
 14th Terry Gray, 23rd Shannon Kotz

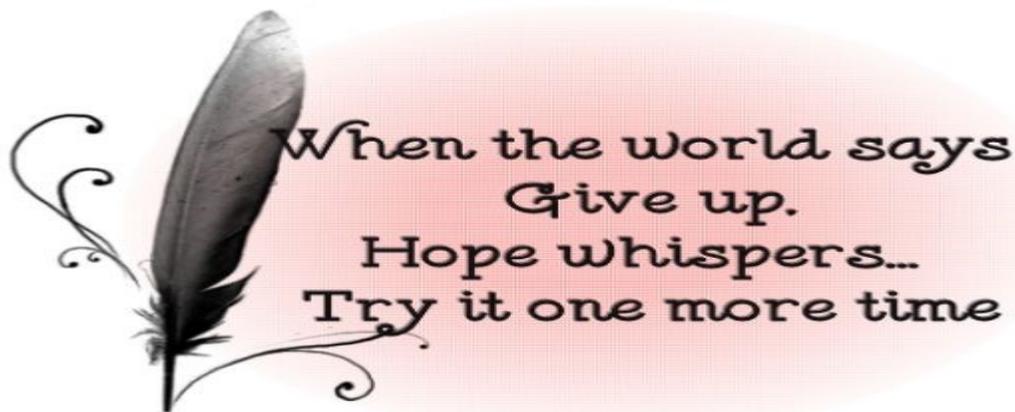


**Vestry Meets**  
**Sunday,**  
**June 17**  
**11:30 am**  
**in the**  
**undercroft**

**St. Stephen's Vestry 2018**

Rev. Karen Crawford  
 Rev. Merle Smith  
 Steve Halstead (SW)  
 Jim Tracy (JW)  
 Kathy Trotter  
 Rita Baker  
 Nancy Henderson  
 Janice Carpenter (treasurer)  
 Kay Clements  
 Brenda Malott





**LITURGICAL ROSTER**

**June 3 (2nd Sunday after Pent. Proper 4)**

**10 am** Layreader/Chalice: Rita B. Layreader: Barry H.

Petitioner: Jason M.  
Ushers: Ron & Marcy H.  
Counter: Paul K.

**June 10 (3rd Sunday after Pent. Proper 5)**

**10 am** Layreader/Chalice: Jim & Meredith T.

Layreader: Zeb Treloar  
Petitioner: Winonah M.  
Ushers: Winonah M. & Ron H.  
Counter: Lorraine W.

**June 17 (4th Sunday after Pent. & Healing Litany Proper 6 "Happy Father's Day")**

**8 am** Layreader/Chalice: Steve H.  
**10 am** Layreader/Chalice: Steve H.  
Layreader: Barry H.  
Petitioner: Steve H.  
Ushers: Paul & Kay K.  
Counter: Meredith T.

**June 24 (5th Sunday after Pent. Proper 7)**

**10 am** Layreader/Chalice: Kathy T.  
Layreader: Winonah M.  
Petitioner: Zeb Treloar  
Ushers:  
Counter: Janice C.

**July 1 (6th Sunday after Pent. Proper 8)**

**10 am** Layreader/Chalice: Rita B.  
Layreader: Deacon Merle  
Petitioner: Jason M.  
Ushers: Paul & Kay K.  
Counter: Rita B.

**July 8 (7th Sunday after Pent. Proper 9)**

**10 am** Layreader/Chalice: Jim & Meredith T.  
.Layreader: Winonah M.  
Petitioner: Zeb T.  
Ushers: Winonah M. & Ron H.  
Counter: Lorraine W.

We are in need of ushers  
See Rev. Karen if interested.

*If you are unable to be here the Sunday you are scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a substitute o switch. Please let the office know.*



**The Tuesday Morning Book Club**  
**"Tattoos on the Heart"**  
**by Gregory Boyle**  
**Every Tuesday at 9:30 am**



**Blessing Box**

Keep an eye out for weekly grocery specials from Hy-Vee and Fareway.  
Donations may be placed in the Blessing Box bin in Latham Hall.



**Wednesday Evening Prayer at 5:15 PM**



**JUNE DONATIONS FOR THE SALVATION ARMY**

Personal care items, soap, shampoo, tooth products, etc.



**YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIALS**

	<u>April</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income	\$14,964.15	\$24,668.05
Expenses	\$ 9,749.47	\$34,021.07
Difference	\$ 5,214.68	\$- 9,353.02



**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
**223 East Fourth Street North**  
**Newton, Iowa 50208**

Our Vision: "To be the hands,  
feet and face of God"

*A truly rich  
man is one  
whose children  
run into his arms,  
even when his  
hands are empty*



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### **FYI- Track One or Track Two?**

People have asked, "Why are there now two Old Testament readings and two Psalms listed for Sunday? We have just entered the long green season after Pentecost.

During this time we are given the choice of reading from what is known as track one or track two. Track one uses Old Testament lessons which focus on a central theme.

This year, year B, tells of the great monarchs. A second track of readings ("Track two") thematically pairs the Old Testament reading with the Gospel reading. As an example, on June 3rd the Gospel reading tells the story of Jesus' confrontation with the Pharisees concerning Sabbath laws. Track one pairs an Old Testament reading about Samuel being called by the Lord while track two offers a reading from Deuteronomy which details keeping the Sabbath holy. It is purely a matter of choice as to which track is selected, but once that decision is made it is not to be reversed mid season. I prefer to have the Gospel and Old Testament relate to each other so I will use Track two this year.



## Let's Garden On!

Despite the strange spring weather, our Pantry Garden is taking shape. We plowed it last fall and came back with a tiller this spring which left us with nice mellow soil. Step onto the garden and you sink to your ankles!

On May 24 we blessed the gardens (yes, there are two—one for the food pantry and one for our Sudanese friends) and then began planting. But not before a wonderful potluck dinner! A big thanks to Jim and Kay Clements, Steve and Mary Halstead, Rev. Karen, and Paul and Kay Koeppen.

The first thing we planted were the veggies that the Tracey's had distributed at the Annual Meeting. We took them to Dave Morrison's greenhouse where Dave lovingly cared for them. We discovered we had peas, beans and vine plants—still not sure what they are! We also planted two and a half rows of onions. Three rows of beans, fifteen tomatoes and ten peppers. The peppers and tomato plants came from Dave Morrison. We will finish up with potatoes and squash which will pretty much fills the available space.

We encourage you to think about the food pantry when you have more than you need coming out of your garden.

Garden days will be Tuesdays after Book Club which means about 11 am. We have on site all the tools we need so bring your willing hands to help in our effort to make a dent in Newton's hunger.

