



ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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September 2018

St. Stephen's Beacon

*From the desk of
Rev. Karen Crawford*

The lazy hazy crazy days of summer are quickly coming to an end and it's time to turn our thoughts to the new program year. As is our custom we will celebrate by coming together for one service at 9 am on September 9th followed by the annual church picnic at my home at 11:30am. Hot dogs, hamburgers and the fixings will be provided and the rest is up to you. Bring your favorite potluck offering and beverage, and a chair or blanket.

There will be plenty of opportunities this year to stimulate the spiritual side of your brain. September 16th will be the kickoff day for Sunday School at 10:00 and the 9:00 Adult Bible Study in Latham Hall. Deacon Merle will facilitate, and plans to use the Synthesis materials which focus on the scripture lessons for each Sunday. The JustFaith program will begin on October 10th and there are a few openings available. The fall class examines the plight of the poor through reading books such as "Barking to the Choir" by Greg Boyle, videos and TED Talks, a poverty simulation and an opportunity for action. The Tuesday Book Group's first meeting will be on September 11th at 9:30am. The pace is leisurely, the conversation lively, and the books are relevant to Christian life.

Perhaps one of the most significant changes this year is that stewardship and mission will join together for our annual stewardship drive. It will begin on September 9th and conclude on November 4th. God calls us not only to share the gifts so freely given but also our time and talents.

Two of our 2018 priorities centered around exploring a Saturday evening Eucharist and continuing to develop and offer special services. The

Saturday service is a work in progress. It is a casual, come as you are celebration that provides a chance to worship intimately with others, discuss scripture, and enjoy fellowship at the table. If you're busy some Sunday check out a Saturday service. We will again bless our furry friends on September 30th and celebrate those that have gone before us on All Saints/AllSouls Day. Thanksgiving will be celebrated with a Eucharist on Wednesday and Advent will include a Service of Remembrance. Unlike last year, Christmas Eve lands on a weekday which will also allow us to celebrate the greening of the church on Sunday and a New Year's Eve service. Epiphany falls on a Sunday this year so get ready for a fun service and an enhanced coffee hour complete with a King's Cake! The women and men's group will resume in October and don't forget the exciting opportunity to hear our Presiding Bishop, Bishop Curry, preach at our Diocesan Convention on October 28th in Des Moines.

St. Stephen's is blessed to have a loving community, a beautiful sanctuary to gather together to worship and multiple choices to be the hands, feet and face of God. God calls you to come together each Sunday for renewal, so that you can go out into the world and care for all of creation. God calls you to the Eucharist to be as one with God and receive strength and peace as you make your way through life's ups and downs. God calls you to tell the story of how God came to this world to offer salvation and eternal life. As we begin the new program year make attending a service a priority, and invite others to share in God's word and sacrament. It is through our story telling that we invite and spread God's word.



**St. Stephen's New Program Year Begins
Sunday, Sept. 16th**

On Sunday, Sept. 9th we are kicking off the new year with our annual Parish Picnic at 11:30 am at Rev. Karen's residence. Sunday School begins Sunday, Sept. 16th at 10 am and 9 am Adult Bible study led by Deacon Merle. The focus will be on the scripture lessons for each Sunday.

There is always room for you



**Vestry meets
Sunday, Sept. 16th
at 11:30 am
in the undercroft.**

**Birthdays for the
month of September**

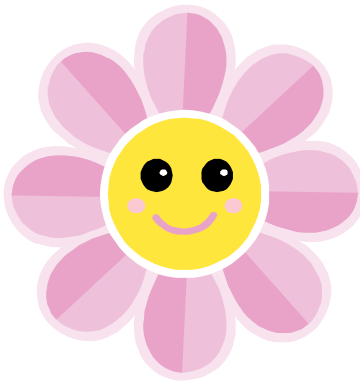
1st Christopher Templeton
3rd Steve Halstead
9th Shelby Rodenberg
20th Makia Henderson
30th John Dungan

*Congratulations to
Shannon Kotz & Chris Basinger
on your 9/7 wedding*

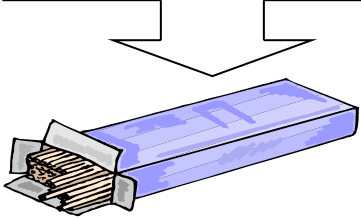


**Jesus Taught
us how to
Serve Others**

**Men's and
Women's
Groups**
will resume in October.
Details to come



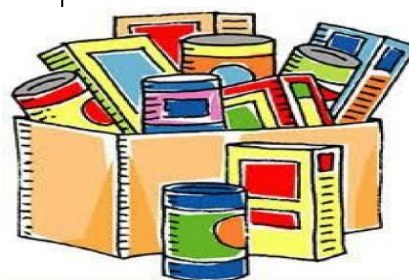
**SEPTEMBER DONATIONS
FOR THE SALVATION ARMY**
Rice & Pasta.



**Wednesday
Evening Prayer
at 5:15 PM**
led by
**Deacon
Merle Smith**

Blessing Box needs:

Keep an eye out for weekly specials at local grocery stores. Place them in the blessing box bins in Latham Hall. Thank you for your faithfulness in giving to this endeavor.



LITURGICAL ROSTER

Sept. 2 (15th Pentecost)
Proper 17
 10 am Layreader/Chalice: Jim & Meredith T.
 Layreader: Barry H.
 Petitioner: Jason M.
 Ushers: Paul & Kay K.
 Counter: Lorraine W.

Sept. 9 (16th Pentecost)
Proper 18 - All Parish Picnic
(One Service at 9 am)

9 am Layreader/Chalice: Kathy T.
 Layreader: Winonah M.
 Petitioner: Winonah M.
 Ushers: Winonah M. & Ron H.
 Counter: Janice C.

Sept. 16 (17th Pentecost)
Proper 19 & Healing Litany

10 am Layreader/Chalice: Steve H.
 Layreader: Steve H.
 Petitioner: Steve H.
 Ushers:
 Counter: Mary H.

Sept. 23 (18th Pentecost)
Proper 20

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

Sept. 30 (19th Pentecost)
Proper 21

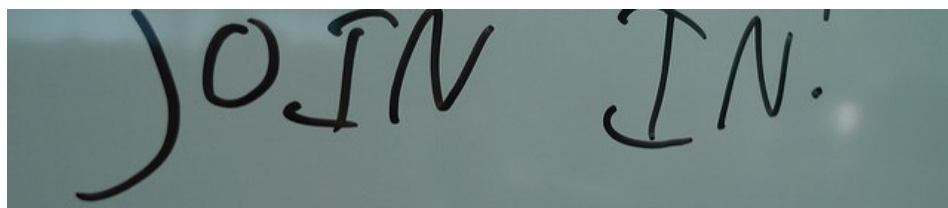
10 am Layreader/Chalice: Jim & Meredith T.
 Layreader: Winonah M.
 Petitioner: Winonah M.
 Ushers: Winonah M. & Ron H.
 Counter: Rita B.

Oct. 7 (20th Pentecost)
Proper 22

10 am Layreader/Chalice: Kathy T.
 Layreader: Barry H.
 Petitioner: Jason M.
 Ushers:
 Counter: Janice C.

Oct. 14 (21st Pentecost)
Proper 23

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



Tuesday Book Club

Begins on Tuesday, September 11th at 9:30 am. During the break you were to have read "Take this Bread" by Sara Miles to be discussed on the 11th. "The Art of Transformation: Three Things Churches Do That Change Everything" by Paul Fromberg will be our next book begins Tuesday, Sept. 18th. Come for our casual, lively study time.



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



CURRENT FINANCIALS

YEAR-TO-DATE JULY 2018



	<u>JULY</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
Income	\$ 5,433.05	\$58,340.00
Expenses	\$12,548.13	\$70,932.50
Difference	(-\$7,115.08)	(-\$12,592.50)

ALL PARISH PICNIC

Sunday, September 9th at 11:30 am

*We are having one Worship Service at 9 am
then meeting at Rev. Karen's residence for our
annual church picnic.*

This will be a time of family fun and fellowship.

Hot dogs, hamburgers and chips will be provided and the rest is up to you. Bring your favorite potluck offering and beverage plus a lawn chair or blanket.





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

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



*Lots of New
Offerings and
Upcoming Events*



Parish Directory

We are updating our
Parish Directory

A copy will be placed on the back table in the sanctuary for you to make any corrections to your personal data. You can also email the parish office at ststephn@iowatelecom.net with your information.