



ST. STEPHEN'S

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January, 2019

Happy and Blessed Epiphany

Epiphany is the season of growing light. Even though we are in the clutch of winter the days are getting longer. We know that the tilt of the earth will bring us light, warmth and new life. It is a time for us to anticipate seeds and bulbs that have been buried to bud and grow. We have carefully planted the bulbs in good soil with just the right amount of fertilizer but it is a reoccurring miracle when they actually sprout.

We also plant seeds of ministries in hope that they will bud and grown into vital programs and activities. Sometimes the preparation can go on for years and when they take root it can seem like a miracle. One long cultivated seed that is sprouting is an opportunity for community dialogues with the Lynn Police Department. ECCO (Essex Country Community Organization) has been working to improve relations with the Lynn Police Department and the Lynn community, especially with people of color. The Lynn PD has invited teams of community members to participate in their officer training programs this winter and spring. They are planning on having one-on-one conversations between officers and community members about experiences and feeling coming out of interactions with the police. Please see the letter from Pastor Bernadette Hickman-Maynard below for details of this breakthrough.

The challenge for us at St. Stephen's is to respond to help bring these tender shoots into budding flowers. Along with other congregations in Lynn, we are being asked to build a team of 12-15 individuals who will participate in these discussions. They will be taking place on Wednesday mornings from mid January to May. Most participants will only need to commit to one or two Wednesdays. ECCO will provide training. We will be providing more information in the coming weeks. If you are interested or have questions, please contact me.

We have an opportunity to put our faith into action. I hope we will be able to respond to this growing light, turning our prayers into real change.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Barrington". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom Barrington, Interim Priest

Hello ECCO leaders,

We are one step closer toward building the Beloved Community and improving relations between the Police and the community in Lynn. Last night, nine of our leaders met with Lynn Police Chief Michael Mageary, Captain Michael Vail, and 4 other officers to have powerful 1:1 conversations and pilot our proposed Police-Community Conversations In-Service training. All of the officers present unanimously commented about how valuable the conversations were and how it would be a great addition to their In-Service Training Series. Chief Mageary wholeheartedly endorsed and approved of ECCO conducting a Police-Community Conversations Session during their 2019 In-Service Training Series. Congratulations, and a big thank you to all who participated last night, who courageously told their stories, and who were involved in the conception and development of the action.

And now we shift into a high gear. Our task is clear. On Wednesdays at 10am from January 30th through May 1st, we've got to organize Lynn community members (not exclusively residents) in groups of 15 to have 1:1 conversations with Lynn Police Officers over the course of 12 weeks of the in-service training.

We can do it! Already Sacred Heart/St. Mary's has committed to organizing folk for 1 day, Zion Baptist is down for four days, and Bethel AME is down for two days. Seven days covered, 5 more to go. Please let me know if you and/or your congregation are willing to be a part of this important effort.

May the peace of God be with you during this holiday Season. May the love of our Creator spur you on toward greater and greater acts of Love. And may the power of the Spirit be with us all as we engage in the work of justice in the North Shore and even to the ends of the earth.

In solidarity,
Rev. Bernadette Hickman-Maynard,
Pastor Bethel AME Church, Lynn

Reflection on LOVE IN ACTION

Christ Has No Body

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)! Born in Spain, Teresa entered a Carmelite convent when she was eighteen, and later earned a reputation as a mystic, reformer, and writer who experienced divine visions. She founded a convent, and wrote the book *The Way of Perfection* for her nuns. Other important books by her include her *Autobiography* and *The Interior Castle*.

A word from the Senior Warden

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I hope you had a happy Christmas season this year and that 2019 fills your life with many blessings. A special thank you goes out to all who helped to make our Christmas Services beautiful and special...from those who helped clean, decorate and prepare the church to those who helped lead us in worship to those who participated in the services. This year, the choir was present at both services and at the 5pm service, in lieu of a Christmas Pageant, as we heard the story of the first Christmas, members from the congregation set up our crèche by placing the figurines of Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, the shepherds, etc. in the manger. At our traditional candlelit 10pm service, the choir, accompanied by a violinist, performed many of our Christmas favorites. Our crèche scene will be complete on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6, (which this year falls on a Sunday) as we place the Wise Men (and a camel) at the manger.

Serving as one of the wardens at St. Stephen's, feels a lot like a child who waits with anticipation for Christmas morning to arrive. There have been so many good and exciting things happening at our church throughout 2018 and into 2019. Most recently is the much needed Food Pantry renovation project, which operates out of our "old" dining room kitchen. Yes, I do mean the 1920's parish kitchen, the kitchen we used before the Anderson (Sunday School) Wing was completed in 1957. Opening up this space has been a "Pandora's Box" of issues, blowing away our \$21,000 renovation budget, but in the end we will know that the space will be up to current fire, safety, plumbing, electrical and health codes. It is heartwarming to see donations coming to the church from other churches around Lynn and the North Shore, from area businesses and from parishioners to support this important ministry, one that clearly says that we are a church responding to our community's needs, come by on a Friday and see the line forming three hours before the food pantry opens.

Our next bit of excitement this year is planning for our 175th Anniversary. St. Stephen's had its first official meeting on September 22, 1844. A committee is in the process of being formed to work out all the finer details. We do have our Bishop Diocesan, the Rt. Rev. Alan Gates, already scheduled to be with us on Sunday, September 22, 2019 as our celebrant. Please mark your calendars and if you're one of the many addresses far from the 01902 zip code that this newsletter reaches, please make travel plans to be with us. We would love to see the many people who helped shaped St. Stephen's to what it is today and for whom St. Stephen's has helped shaped them for who they are today.

Hoping you all a healthy and prosperous 2019!

Peace,



Chris Trahan

NURTURING THE CONGREGATION

VESTRY SUMMARY: The Vestry met this month and discussed stewardship, 2019 budget, fundraising, youth program and CPPK. The Food Pantry renovations were also reviewed along with plowing for the upcoming winter season. There will be a 175th Anniversary Celebration next fall. Nomination forms for next year's Vestry will need to be submitted by mid January to be included in Annual Report. It's more important than ever to have a strong Vestry. Please consider serving. Annual Meeting will be held on ***Sunday, February 10, 2019 after 10:00 am Service.***

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM PLANS PLEDGE FOLLOW UP. As we reach toward our pledge goal of \$120,000, the Stewardship Ministry Team and Vestry thank all who have pledged for 2019. Pledge envelopes and thank you Episcopal Church calendars are available in the Galahad Area; please call the office if you would like your envelopes mailed to you. Even as we move toward our pledge goal, the Vestry conversation about income made clear we actually need to surpass our goal if we hope to fund the ministry envisioned when leaders discussed the expense side of the 2019 budget. Please help by ensuring that St. Stephens's will continue to salt the community for generations to come.

ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE? Our Parish, Deanery, and Diocese need leaders and the good news is that the leaders we need are sitting in our pews. Please think, pray, and talk to **Nominating Committee members Pam Alleyne, Dorothy Post, Paul Whitcomb, and Robert Whitney** as you reflect on whether God might be calling you to serve. Although nominations can be made at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 10, the Nominating Committee hopes to publish in the Annual Report a full slate of candidates for Senior & Junior Warden, Treasurer, Clerk, and Vestry (three 3-year terms and one 1-year term) as well as Deanery (5 delegates) and Diocesan Convention (2 delegates & 2 alternates). **The deadline for nominations is Sunday, January 27.**

ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK LUNCH FEBRUARY 10, 2019 AT NOON. Mark your calendars now for the Annual Meeting and Potluck on Sunday, February 10 at noon. Episcopal governance requires the participation of our members in our Annual Meeting. The Episcopal Church defines members as communicants who contribute financially to the parish. We hope to have Annual Reports available by Sunday, February 3. Of course, timely completion of the Annual Report depends on **all ministry team leaders submitting Annual Reports by Friday, January 11.**

STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

SEARCH COMMITTEE! The Search Committee meets twice a month to do the work of calling a new rector. In December we held focus groups and individual interviews. We still have a few focus groups we need to conduct so we will continue that journey. Also, we have begun the arduous task of writing the Parish Profile. As we have conveyed to you previously, this is an extremely important document. This document has to convey to prospective candidates who St. Stephen's is, was, and hopes to be. They will engage with

this document to determine if they want to apply to be out rector. So you can see how important this document is. It is our hope to have the document ready by early February. We will then bring the document to the congregation for feedback. We ask for your thoughts and prayers be with us as we continue on this sacred path. As always your comments and concerns are welcome so feel free to stop one of us and tell us. Thank you for your patience and prayers. The Search Committee.

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES JANUARY 2. During Epiphany, we will be finishing the Journeying The Way of Love. We meet every Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8:00 to read the Bible and discuss what it means for us as people of faith. Join us and bring your questions!

HEALING PRAYER AND PASTORAL CARE TEAM MEET JANUARY 3. The Healing Prayer and Pastoral Care Teams will meet at 10:30 on Thursday, January 3rd.

SPECIAL SERVICE FOR MLK WEEKEND SUNDAY, JANUARY 20. The St. Stephen's Beloved Community Team is planning worship on Sunday, January 20. In place of the sermon we will be offering the opportunity for conversations around race, class, and privilege and how we as a community and individuals can respond.

WOMEN'S GROUP GATHERS JANUARY 13 AT 12:30. All women are welcome and lunch is Potluck. Every month it's a feast of food, faith, fellowship, and fun.

HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

CPPK TOY DRIVE WRAPS UP ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR. Thanks to the efforts of the OASIS youth group, Middle School youth group, and our dedicated adult leaders at St. Stephen's, we had another awesome year for CPPK (Christmas Presents Project for Kids)! This year we gave out gifts to nearly one hundred fifty gifts to underserved children in the Lynn community. For around sixteen years now, CPPK has been providing opportunities for St. Stephen's youth to learn the importance of sharing their time and talents in service of families in our community who could use some help during the holidays. A huge "thank you" to Jason Cruz, Bonnie Bishop, Stephen Lapukas, Pam Poppe, Helen Patmon, Neil O'Donnell, Jean Sigourney, Carol Edwards parents and families, and everyone who donated to make CPPK 2018 a success!

OASIS MEETS FRIDAYS, JANUARY 12TH AND 26TH, 6:30-9:00PM. The OASIS Community Youth Group welcomes all teens in grades 9-12 for bi-monthly gatherings with dinner, conversations, and activities. On the 12th, they will join with the Middle Schoolers for a New Year's Party. They will also meet on January 26th to continue the conversation from the fall about identity.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH RETREAT AT BCH CAMP FEBRUARY 8-10. Join young people (grades 9-12) and adults from across the diocese for a weekend of games, song, discovery, and inspiration. Organized and led by teens on the Diocesan Youth Council, the retreat is designed to give high school students a chance for rest and relaxation away from the

stresses of family, school and work. The retreat fills up quickly so please see Rev. Tom before January 14 to sign up! The retreat costs \$140; we ask for a family contribution of at least \$40 but scholarships are available but spaces fills up fast!

WINTER QUILTING RETREAT! Friday, February 22nd – Sunday, February 24th. A weekend filled with fun, laughter, new friends, great food and lots of creativity! Quilters of all abilities are welcome. This retreat is intended to give you the free time needed to begin, work on, or finish a project, without any formal instructions. For fun-filled faith or faithful fun, are invited to register now for time at BCH in February. You can register online at bchcenter.org.

DEEPENING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

HONOR DR. KING DURING MLK WEEKEND. Monday, January 20th 8:00am-11:00am at the Knights of Columbus, 177 Lynnfield Street, Lynn. St. Stephens has purchased a table. If you would like to join us, please speak to Helen Patmon or Pam Poppe.

2018 CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF

The Rev. & Mrs. Robert
Anderson, Jr.

Hal Bowden

George Burkholder
Dorothy Robinson
William Robinson

James D. & Margaret J.
Byrne
Charles & Margaret B.
McFarlane
Harold T. & Jane Snow
John E & Beatrice Byrne
Beatrice Byrne Faus
John & Matilda C.
McFarlane
Janet McLean
Cynthia A. McFarlane
John S. McLean
James F. & Marie Byrne
Diane E. Byrne
Alice E. Byrne
Henry J. & Jane B.
Livermore
Ernest J. & Ester G.
Livermore
Perley & Marguerite G.
McIntire
Donald B. & Taimie
Livermore
Wilbur J. & Marge
Livermore
Dorothy M. Livermore
Stella Fox

The Rev. & Mrs. Albert J.
Chafe

Joseph Emmanuel Dennis
Dr. Armah Cooper
Armelia DiPietrantonio
Cynthia Cooper Kamara
Laurie Sauchuk
Elizabeth M. Sherman
Robert R. Pedro
Euphemia Cooper Weeks

The Rev. Robert Derr

Robert & Doris Dixon
Henry & Mary Morgan
Emma Morgan Butler
Albert Morgan
Violet Morgan Donarchie
Marion G. Eastwood
Arthur F. Eastwood, Jr.
Evelyn M. Williams
Mabel A. Saulnier

Dorothy G. Bernard

Shirley E. Foster
Laura Glover
Ralph Eaton
Paul Foster

Francis N. Haley
Grace S. Haley

Gladys L. Haywood
Arnold C. Haywood
Clarence, Julia, Thomas &
Dorothy Callaway
George & Christalia
Jackson & Family

Alice & Alvan P. Hicks
Alvan W. Hicks, Jr.
Nancy J. Hicks
Rachel Crowley
Anne & Norman Reid
The Crowley Family
Gladys & Ray Messenger
Carole & Ernst Voigt
Anna & Charles Cloran

Shirley Hughes
Burton Hughes
Keith Hughes
Beverly Barrons

Patricia M. Jackson
Hubert & Myrtle Jackson
Shirley H. Biggs
Robert C. Jackson
Hubert Jackson, Jr.
Nancy M. Jackson

Dorothy Kay-McLaughlin

Judith Kay
Paul Bartlett
John Elton
Sofia Dariotis
Charles Femia
Lucille Foster
Irene Sherwood Gilroy
Yolanda Gonzalez
Bill & Claire Jackson
Barbara Keating
Herbert & Phyllis Kellom
Jessie LeClerk
Kathleen Lehew
Leslie Lougee
Joan Lules
Jane Marquis
Patricia McGovern

Charles & Kathleen
McLaughlin

John McLaughlin
Richard McLaughlin
Diane Paine-Wheeler
Robert E. Ross, Jr.
Robert E. Ross Sr.
Ken & Lorraine Shanahan
Rev. Edward & Esther
Howland Sherwood
Edward Sherwood Jr.
John, Mary & Philip Walsh
BP

The Rev. Dr. William
Lawson

Carl Anthony Messina, Sr.
Charles Fowler
Avis & Kenneth Ferguson
Sandra Ferguson Conway
Daniel & Sarah Ferguson
Anna Ferguson
Bernice Ferguson
Ella & Joseph Messina
Johanna & Maurice
Mulcahy
Daniel Mulcahy
Kenneth Lewis, Sr.

John & Helen Morris
John & Mary Morris
Carl & Albertina Fischer
Carl A. Fischer
Matthew Clifton
Alan Sward
Marvin Wilkes

Alfred & Ann Nottingham
John & Louise Cantrell
Bertram & Jeanette
Nottingham
Thomas Roberts
Pamela Marcin

Rosalie W. Post
Edward Everett Post
Harriet B. Post
The Rev. Edgar Romig

The Sheppard Family
Edith Stead

Arthur & Mildred Thorne

Marlene Tinkham
Michael Tinkham
Elsie Loring
Gladys Renaghan
Marjorie Reid
Corinne Surette
Patricia Mitchell
Midge Day

Ruth Milne Twohig
Jane Twohig Perrin

Rose Yakoobian
Joseph Yakoobian
Nazareth Ghazarosian
George Ghazarosian
Martin Ghazarosian

In Thanksgiving for

Alicia Cruz
Vivian Plaza

The Life of St. Stephen's
Parish

St. Stephen's Events

January 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 The Holy Name New Year's Day 7:00 pm NA	2 6:30 pm Journeying The Way of Love: Advent Study	3 10:30 am Healing Prayer & Pastoral Care Team Meeting 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	4 Call Welch Florist for Flowers	5 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 4:00 pm Epiphany Day
6 The Epiphany 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 11:00 am Harvest Fair Luncheon 11:30 am Search Committee	7 6:00 pm ECCO Board Meeting -Graham Suite 8:00 pm AA	8 7:00 pm NA	9 6:30 pm Bible Study	10 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 7:00 pm Beloved Community Team	11 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS	12 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
13 First Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 12:00 pm Women's Group	14 8:00 pm AA	15 2:30 pm Communion at the Towers 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm Stewardship Ministry Team	16 6:30 pm Bible Study	17 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	18 Confession of St Peter, Apostle 3:00 pm Food Pantry	19 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Community Food Pantry
20 Second Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 11:45 am Vestry Meeting	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day 6:30 pm Search Committee Meeting 8:00 pm AA	22 7:00 pm NA	23 6:30 pm Bible Study	24 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	25 Conversion of St Paul, Apostle 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS	26 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm Diocesan Youth Council Overnight
27 Third Sunday after the Epiphany Diocesan Youth Council Overnight 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	28 8:00 pm AA	29 7:00 pm NA	30 11:30 am Search Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Bible Study	31 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers		