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May, 2019 Newsletter

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

Our Lenten Forum this year centered on sermons given by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on being a part of the Jesus Movement. He is a dynamic preacher. He calls us to pay attention to Jesus; not as some abstract theoretical notion or a spiritual mascot. Bishop Curry challenges us to really get to know Jesus. He implored those at the Episcopal Youth Event last summer saying, "If you want to change the world, follow Jesus." To those at Trinity Church Wall Street, the wealthiest church in the USA, he quotes The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, "As you prepare to march, meditate on the life and teachings of Jesus." To a tiny Native American congregation near Standing Rock South Dakota, who were protesting an oil pipeline going through their water supply, Bishop Curry said that they are "part of Jesus' movement to transform the nightmare that is, into the dream God intends."

Bishop Curry's sermons are inspiring and energizing, but he also notes that most Episcopalians do not actually know what Jesus said or did. We know bits and pieces of the story because that is the way we usually hear them. In our worship we get a ten verse passage at a time. Unless we know the whole story, the context, we can leave church with only a partial understanding of Jesus.

I am inviting and encouraging everyone to crack open your Bible and read it. I suggest you begin with one of the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke or John. This Easter Season the Gospel reading will be from John. If you prefer to read with others, all are invited to join the Bible Study on Wednesday nights. We are reading through the Gospel of Luke. I suggest that if you have not read the Bible regularly, just read it for the story. Get a sense of what Jesus was really like. You can also keep asking what Jesus might mean to you and your life today.

As Bishop Curry states, "The message of Jesus matters." I do believe that in this age of sound bites, social media, and virtual friends, Jesus has a lot to say that can actually help us change the world and build it to what God intends.

The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Peace,

The Rev. Tom Barrington

STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

FROM THE ORGANIST. I personally want to thank all the choir members for their efforts, dedication, and loyalty to make Easter so wonderful. I also must thank our violinist for her extraordinary talent. We are so fortunate to have Lisa Brook every Easter. God Bless, Bruce.

A WORD FROM THE TREASURER. At this time, we will cut back on sending printed pledge statements to the Parish. This will enable the Church to save paper, staff costs and postage. Please feel free to contact the Parish Office if you would like a paper copy of your statement. All pledge information is available through your Realm profile, and we will be sending out notification via email that your statement for the first quarter is ready. If you don't have one set up, please contact the Parish Office and we will set you up. The only exception to this is that we will be sending reminders to parishioners who are not current with their giving. As always, please feel free to contact the Treasurer directly with questions about the status of your pledge.

DEAR ST. STEPHEN'S FAMILY & VESTRY

Not really sure how to start so...

It's been 20+ years of youth work here in the HEART of Lynn at St. Stephen's where we live "LOVE in ACTION," a place where we know prayer is not enough! The season has come. I have looked back at the many points of contact within these walls with so many youth and families that I have had the privilege of walking with from birth through to death. I am also proud to say that we have opened the doors and reached outside our walls to be sure that ALL ARE WELCOMED. I recently sat by the house on the lawn, and still recognize that our youth work here has been a beacon of sorts for all folks who just want to be seen, heard, and respected. As your youth minister, we have traveled to serve and exercise our responsibility to learn by being side by side with all of God's children. With our youth and their efforts we have left an impression on people from as far north as upstate New York with migrant worker youth down to the deep south to help rebuild. As a church we have walked Harriett Tubman's steps and served God's kids in the all the boroughs of New York City. We have expanded St. Stephens's spirit far and wide all while making sure our spiritual kitchen served up "Soul Food" for OUR youth from the pews at La Union Street. We have always chosen to meet our youth where they are! Truly believing all youth are all his children. Sitting and taking a moment to break bread and find the smallest thing to be thankful for is prayer. Making and having dinner together created moments to celebrate frustrations and successes, and fears that have led to tears. As a church, we have been a place where kids who have experienced loss could have the space to feel and grieve. Clyde, Clyde the Remix, Young Adults, Oasis Middle, BE YOU, and Oasis have been a blessing that has often been a lifeline for ALL of OUR kids.

He said "The Greatest of these is Love..."

For twenty years we have served love up in many innovative and creative ways. What has kept our kids filled with levels of hope has been the way we have worked to interact with Lynn's youth, God's kids all of his children. We have valued their potential, not if they are good or bad, struggle with school or not, gay or straight, rich or poor, Episcopalian or not, white or black, emotionally struggling or not, we show up and create moments together where they can succeed and grow. We have been as consistent as we could be in giving kids a safe, spiritually fertile, fun and intentional space for many years. Our kids have kept moving even when they want to stop or are being held down by life. THIS is real. WE have been a REAL POINT of contact for them at times to let us know they are tired and want to end it. We have also been a place to celebrate the young ones who didn't think they would see 18. If you ever take a break, meditate, pray, gather with those who energize you, take a vacation, go get your hair done, or it could be as simple as a sigh or deep breath, then I know you can identify with OUR kids and their need for moments to breathe and just be or chill. WE the church, you, us and them, have the privilege to offer and provide the moments where they start to learn to care for themselves, just as we have learned for ourselves. Our youth have had generational access to lived knowledge and wisdom that no google search could compare to.

KNOW THAT I BELIEVE OUR KIDS ARE MADE IN HIS IMAGE, PUNTO PERIOD! I feel blessed to have been walking with Christ children on their journeys both as a witness and at times a compass, or maybe just a flashlight.

I am so grateful for Neil and Helen for the several years they have walked with our youth, and for all of those who have worked by my side from day one to today. I want to thank the vestry leaders, parish families, and the surrounding community of St. Stephens for the two decades of support for the youth work that has had so many variations here at St. Stephens. I have witnessed the power of this church community as we have held the Lynn community and Lynn's youth during some heavy and transformational times.

After many conversations with my queen Paulina, and much prayer, soul searching, and reflecting over the many chapters of my career here, I know I have grown, been shaped, and feel changed.

As this season of my professional life comes to a close, I know that we could not have achieved any of our markers of inclusion, hospitality, creativity service, or spiritual growth on this journey without our interns, assistant rectors, rectors, and the behind-the-scenes church family. I would like to humbly inform you, that with a heavy heart, as of end of June, 2019, I will resign as youth minister here at St. Stephens Episcopal Church.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out.
Much respect,
Jason M. Cruz, M.A., A.T.R.

NURTURING THE CONGREGATION

THE BELOVED COMMUNITY TEAM(BCT). BCT continues to meet monthly discussing racism and white privilege. We are currently reading Robin Dangelo's new book "White Fragility," and discussing it at our meetings.

On Sunday, May 19 from 3 to 5 pm, BCT will be hosting another significant event in Lawrence Hall that will be open to the public. We hope that parishioners will join us for "Historical Storytelling Related to Race and Difference" a workshop featuring Karen Groce-Horan and Betsy Disharoon. Karen is co-founder of Courageous Conversations towards Racial Justice in the Milton, Mattapan area which is a community collaboration that has held over 40 community discussion related events since October of 2016 to work towards racial healing and reconciliation in a diverse community struggling with barriers that have divided us for generations.

Using a centering media piece we will explore an aspect of our personal history that provided a racial revelation allowing us to see and hear one another in beloved community so that with courage we can step forth to manifest a community centered on God's loving plan for us all. There will be light refreshments and there is no admission fee.

ECCO ANNUAL BOAT CRUISE Sunday, June 23rd, 7-9:30 PM. Arrive by 6:45 PM to get on the boat! Where to meet: 63 Rodgers St., Gloucester, MA. You are invited to ECCO's annual Boat Cruise Fundraiser, the best social justice dance party of the summer! Join us for an evening of schmoozing, DJ and dancing, and cash bar/light refreshments with ECCO's vibrant and diverse community.

JOIN "ENCOUNTERS IN THE HOLY LAND" MISSION PILGRIMAGE: Join Bishop Gayle E. Harris and the Rev. Debbie Phillips for "Encounters in the Holy Land," a mission pilgrimage in Israel and Palestine, Oct. 1-15, 2019. The mission pilgrimage will combine visits to holy sites in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea, Nazareth, Galilee, Nablus and Ramallah with opportunities to learn about active mission in the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem through its school, healthcare and peacemaking ministries. **The registration deadline is May 15.** The group will meet three times before the trip for orientation and community building. Estimated cost is \$4,100 per person (double occupancy), with all payments due by July 15. For more information, contact David Ames (617-482-4826, ext. 445 or dames@diomass.org).

SEARCH COMMITTEE. The Search Committee was busy in April gathering information from the congregation for the Parish Profile. We thank all of you for your participation in the listening sessions and the time you spent reading and responding to the Draft Parish Profile. It is now our task to take all the feedback and incorporate it as best we can. Eventually, the Profile will make its way back to the Vestry to review, comment and vote. After we have been given the approval of the Vestry we can then forward to the diocese for their approval. Once we receive the diocese's approval we can then post on the St.

Stephen's website for prospective candidates to view. In the meantime we will be devising questions and evaluation procedures for candidates so that once applications begin to come in we will be ready to respond.

Once again we ask that you keep us in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you for the honor to serve you in this sacred process. Your Search Committee

HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

YOUTH LEAD MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST. Join our teens in the Graham Suite at 9am on Mother's Day, Sunday May 12th for a light breakfast in appreciation for our mothers, female leaders, and all of the women who have gone before us. There will be a small gift made by the teens for all who attend. You definitely don't want to miss out!

WORK AT KIC THIS SUMMER. Applications for KIC mentors are out! Applicants must currently be in 10th grade or above. Successful mentors are usually responsible, caring, energetic youth who are interested in working with children. Applications are still available in the office and Galahad areas. Both new and returning prospective mentors should fill out an application and complete an interview. While KIC likes to hire from the St. Stephen's family, KIC hiring is competitive so teens are encouraged to provide thoughtful responses and to return application forms on time! Questions? Contact Shannon Morrissey, KIC Director, at Smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org

KIC CAMP IS COMING. Registration forms for KIC Summer day camp will be available in the office and Galahad area! Any child who is between the ages of 6-12 years old is eligible for camp, and spots are available on a first come, first served basis. KIC will run from July 8 – August 2, Monday-Friday, from 8:30 to 2:00. Campers can look forward to days filled with art, music, games, field trips, and more!

BCH IS FILLING FAST AND REGISTRATION CLOSES SOON! The Barbara C. Harris (BCH) Camp in Greenfield, N.H., aims to be a place where all campers feel accepted and are able to develop authentic friendships, learn important life lessons and gain new perspectives as they live and play in a community centered on Christian values. The BCH offers five sessions, each six days and five nights, for 4th-12th graders. Financial assistance and summer staff positions are available. Visit www.bchcenter.org/bchcamp for information on sessions, themes, activities and pricing. Questions may be directed to the camp registrar, Abby at abby@bchcenter.org or 603.547.3400. Scholarships are available. We are committed that no child will miss going to BCH Camp because of finances. Speak with Rev. Tom Barrington at tbarrington@ststephenslynn.org about financial information.

OASIS IS WORKING HARD OASIS continues to meet on the 2nd & 4th Fridays of each month 6:30-9 for dinner and connection. We are hard at work planning the 4th Annual Youth Pride Event and also have been having a lot of fun together like playing hide and seek in the dark church!



BE YOU GETTING READY FOR LYNN YOUTH PRIDE ON JUNE 8. On Saturday, June 8th from 11-3 at St. Stephen's Church (74 S. Common Street) in Lynn. Hosted by the BE YOU LGBTQ+ Youth Group, this event is a celebration of the LGBTQ+ community in Lynn and beyond. The event will include food, games, a community art project, a DJ and musical and poetry performances. The event is free and welcomes all LGBTQ+ youth as well as allies. FOR INFORMATION: Jason Cruz jflows@gmail.com.

DIOCESAN YOUTH COUNCIL (DYC) Since 1998, members of DYC have been making the church a nurturing environment for the spiritual growth of young people. Members are 10th through 12th grade students who feel called to extend radical welcome to all youth through shared faith inquiry and journeying. More than forty members from all 12 deaneries plan and run diocesan youth events throughout the year. Application for membership are available each spring and are due in late August. For more information and to register see www.diomassyouth.org or contact Rev. H. Mark Smith at 617.482.4826.

DEEPENING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

FOOD PANTRY HELP REQUESTED. The Book Nook and Clothes Closet on Friday Pantry days are reaching out for help. If you have from 2:30pm-4:00pm or just 3:00 pm -4:00pm on one or more Fridays to help people find books or help sort clothing, that's a fine way to be part of our striving to feed the mind, the body, and the spirit of needy Lynn residents. If you can help, please let the office know or speak to Sally Gosselin or Neil O'Donnell. The Pantry is currently seeking reusable shopping bags.

MAKE A WITNESS AT MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE: Join Bishop Alan M. Gates and the B-PEACE for Jorge Campaign again this year in making a public witness against gun violence by walking together in the Mother's Day Walk for Peace on Sunday, May 12.



This annual pledge walk is sponsored by the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute and is a fundraiser for the institute's work in support of families affected by homicide and its efforts to create more peaceful society.

Walkers will gather at Town Field Park (1520 Dorchester Avenue) in Dorchester, where the event starts with on-site registration beginning at 6 a.m., program at 8 a.m. and step-off at 8:30 a.m. Walkers can also join the walk at a second entry point at 9:45 a.m. at Madison Park High School (75 Malcolm X Boulevard, Roxbury Crossing). The walk concludes with a ceremony at Boston City Hall at 11 a.m.

Register with the B-PEACE for Jorge team here and find more information about the walk at www.mothersdaywalk4peace. Questions may be directed by e-mail to bpeace@ssypboston.org

1844



2019

175th Anniversary

Cherishing • Celebrating • Strengthening

The 175th Anniversary Committee announces

Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 27, 2019

ArtWeek Presentation on Tiffany Windows and Tours
Organ Concert with Mr. Bruce Beecroft

Saturday, June 1, 2019

Diocesan Parish Historian's Society Annual Meeting
(registration required)

Saturday, September 21, 2019

Trails & Sails — Tiffany Window Tours
Catered Dinner — limited seating, tickets required

Sunday, September 22, 2019

Festival Eucharist with Bishop Gates
Reception to follow service

POEM FOR THE MONTH

O God, please give me strength to live another day. Help me not to turn coward before difficulties or prove recreant to its duties. Let me not lose faith in other people. Please keep me aware and sound of heart, in spite of ingratitude, treachery, or meanness. Preserve me from minding little stings or giving them. Help me to keep my heart clean, and to live honestly and fearlessly that no outward failure can dishearten me or take away the joy of conscious integrity. Open wide the eyes of my soul that I may see good in all things. Grant me this day some new vision of thy truth. Inspire me with the spirit of joy and gladness, and make me the CUP of strength to suffering souls. In the name of the strong Deliverer, Our only Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ
Amen

By: Phillips Brooks

If anyone would like to offer a Poem for the Month for future newsletter please send it to ststephens@ststephenslynn.org or speak to Rev. Tom.

EASTER LILIES IN 2019 GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Paul & Florence Alboth Leslie A. Wood Baby Nicole Wood Sara A. Leahy Paul Leahy	Charles & Florence Bradley Clarence & Rev. Rubie Potter Ellen Bradley	Arnold C. Haywood George & Christalia Jackson & Family
Wilma Alleyne Judith Lammy	Michael Bradley Edward Bradley Ralph & Fairy Mae Alcorn	The Rev.& Mrs. Albert J. Chafe
The Rev. & Mrs. Robert Anderson,Jr.	James D. & Margaret J. Byrne Charles & Margaret B. McFarlane	Robert & Doris Dixon Henry & Mary Morgan Emma Morgan Butler Albert Morgan
Gertrude L. Bailey Albert W. Bailey James Bailey Walter C. Bailey Elizabeth A. Bailey Eva T. Bailey Audrey O'Hare Robert C. Hegan Edward Singelais Sr.	Harold T. & Jane Snow John E & Beatrice Byrne Beatrice Byrne Faus John & Matilda C. McFarlane Janet & John S. McLean Cynthia A. McFarlane James F. & Marie Byrne Diane E. Byrne	Violet Morgan Donarchie
Evan & Helene Barrington David Robbins	Alice E. Byrne Henry J. & Jane B. Livermore	Marion G. Eastwood Arthur F. Eastwood, Jr. Evelyn M. Williams Mabel A. Saulnier Dorothy G. Bernard Alan J. Frost
Ruth & Handford Berry Mrs. Ina P. Chandler Mrs. Lorraine Ford	Ernest J. & Ester G. Livermore Perley & Marguerite G. McIntire	Manuel B. Estacio, Jr.
Hal Bowden Joe & Ella Messina Grey & Ena Bowden Thomas Nicholson Ned Stead	Donald B. & Taimie Livermore Wilbur J. & Marge Livermore Dorothy M. Livermore Stella Fox	Barbara Cooper Gardiner Morrie Gardiner Rachel Gardiner Cummings Teresa Autuori
George S. Burkholder Dorothy Robinson William Robinson	Clarence, Julia,Thomas & Dorothy Callaway Gladys L. Haywood	Kenneth S. Estes Shirley E. Foster Laura Glover Ralph Eaton Paul Foster
		Francis N. Haley Grace S. Haley

EASTER LILIES IN 2019 GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Alice & Alvan P. Hicks	Joan Lules	Gloria & Robert McCaul
Alvan W. Hicks, Jr.	Jane Marquis	Florence Laura
Nancy J. Hicks	Patricia McGovern	Beatrice & Adam
Rachel Crowley	Charles & Kathleen	Schickling
Anne & Norman Reid	McLaughlin	
The Crowley Family	John McLaughlin	John & Helen Morris
Gladys & Ray Messenger	Richard McLaughlin	John & Mary Morris
Carole & Ernst Voigt	Diane Paine-Wheeler	Carl & Albertina Fischer
Anna & Charles Cloran	Robert E. Ross, Jr.	Carl A. Fischer
	Robert E. Ross Sr.	Matthew Clifton
	Ken & Lorraine Shanahan	Alan Sward
Philbert Hodge	Rev. Edward & Esther	Marvin Wilkes
Hazel Hodge	Howland Sherwood	
Vijay Otto	Edward Sherwood Jr.	Alfred & Ann Nottingham
Ahmir Brock	John, Mary & Philip Walsh	John & Louise Cantrell
Jaxx Watson	BP	Bertram & Jeanette
		Nottingham
	The Rev. Dr. William	Thomas Roberts
Patricia M. Jackson	Lawson	Pamela Marcin
Hubert & Myrtle Jackson		
Shirley H. Biggs	Carl Anthony Messina, Sr.	Donald L. Phillips
Hubert Jackson, Jr.	Avis & Kenneth Ferguson	Marjorie L. Phillips
Robert C Jackson	Sandra Ferguson Conway	Wayne R. Phillips
Nancy M. Jackson	Charles Fowler	Jeanette Scrimshire
	Bernice Ferguson	
Dorothy Kay-McLaughlin	Anne Ferguson	Rosalie W. Post
Judith Kay	Messina & Mulcahy	Edward Everett Post
Paul Bartlett	Families	Harriet B. Post
John Elton	Kenneth Lewis	
Sofia Dariotis	Bonnie LeJeune	The Rev. Edgar Romig
Charles Femia		
Lucille Foster		The Sheppard Family
Irene Sherwood Gilroy	Alice & James McCaul	Edith Stead
Yolanda Gonzalez	Anna & Thomas Butler	
Bill & Claire Jackson	Evelyn & Edward Klokcin	J. Andrew Squires
Barbara Keating	Jacqueline & Ralph Butler	
Herbert & Phyllis Kellom	Deanna Lomerson	Arthur & Mildred Thorne
Jessie LeClerk	Barbara Ronan	
Kathleen Lehew	Claire & Neville Samson	Marlene Tinkham
Leslie Lougee	Marjorie & Henry Aylward	Marjorie Reid

EASTER LILIES IN 2019 GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY OF

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

Ruth Tucker
Barbara Tucker
Ruthann Bozarjian

Ruth Milne Twohig
Jane Twohig Perrin

Rose Yakoobian
Joseph Yakoobian
Martin Ghazarosian
Nazareth Ghazarosian
George Ghazarosian

In Thanksgiving for
Zeny Estacio

The Rev. Tom Barrington
Diana Horne
Izetta Roberts Cooper
Melita Cooper Cummings

**And for the
Life of St. Stephen's
Parish
both Past & Present**

St. Stephen's Events

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 pm Bible Study	2 10:30 am Healing Prayer & Pastoral Care Team Meeting 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	3	4 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
5 Third Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 11:00 am Search Committee Meeting	6 8:00 pm AA	7 7:00 pm NA	8 6:30 pm Bible Study	9 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 7:00 pm Beloved Community Team	10 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS	11 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
12 Fourth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 8:15 am Mother's Day Brunch 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	13 8:00 pm AA	14 6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm NA	15 6:30 pm Bible Study	16 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	17 3:00 pm Food Pantry	18 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
19 Fifth Sunday of Easter 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 11:30 am Vestry Meeting 2:00 pm Workshop: Helen	20 6:30 pm Search Committee Meeting 8:00 pm AA	21 2:30 pm Communion at the Towers 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm Stewardship Ministry Team	22 6:30 pm Bible Study	23 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	24 3:00pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS	25 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 12:00 pm Antonio: Youth Outreach Advocate
26 Sixth Sunday of Easter Mudge Memorial Day 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	27 Memorial Day 8:00 pm AA	28 7:00 pm NA	29 6:30 pm Bible Study	30 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	31 3:00 pm Food Pantry	

