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November 4, 2019

From the Interim Priest: Talking about Money

The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 1 Corinthians 9:6-7

This is the season that churches are talking about money. Vestries and councils, clergy and laity are planning for the coming year and a part of that is figuring out how to pay for everything.

Here at St Stephen's we are moving more deliberately than in the past, We have come to realize that if we just continue to do everything as in the past, we will run out of funds. Some of this is because the new Rector will cost more, largely because of health insurance. Some of this is caused by paying off our building loan which has reduced our endowment. We are also dealing with the fact that everything costs a little more. The Vestry and the Stewardship Committee are working very hard to find ways to increase income for next year including increasing pledge income, fundraising and possible rental income. You will be hearing more about all of this in the coming weeks.

I am writing this to challenge all of us to find ways to talk about money. Jesus is constantly talking about money. Saint Paul, in the passage from 2 Corinthians above is part of a two chapter (8 & 9) appeal for the Corinthians to raise funds to support the Christians in Jerusalem.

Paul knew it was a difficult asks. He had a rocky relationship with the Corinthians. It was to the point that he did not want to visit in person because he did not want to stir up animosities. None-the-less, he knew that they had to talk about money.

Paul's boldness comes out of his deep faith and trust in the saving grace of Jesus Christ. He knew that the Corinthians also had that deep faith and trust. Paul urges them to consider their abundance and to give generously. He did so knowing that while some individuals were very poor, the community as a whole had been blessed in many ways.

St. Stephen's is getting close to calling a new Rector and beginning a new chapter in our life in Christ. I encourage all of us to talk with each other about our blessings and abundance. Please remember this as you pledge to support St. Stephen's in 2020.

Blessing and Peace,

Rev. Tom Barrington



ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

74 SO. COMMON ST. LYNN

HARVEST FAIR

SATURDAY, NOV. 23, 2019

9 AM - 3 PM

WITH CHILDREN'S FAIR 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

CREATIVE CRAFT PROJECTS - GAMES WITH PRIZES - FREE BOOKS

TASTY BAKERY TREATS

HUGE JEWELRY SALE BOOKS

HANDMADE ITEMS, GIFT OPPORTUNITIES

SILENT AUCTION FABULOUS SAME DAY RAFFLES

STEVE'S CAFÉ - HOMEMADE SPECIALTIES ALL DAY

TIFFANY WINDOWS TOUR 11 AM

**2019 ST. STEPHEN'S MULTI-PRIZE RAFFLE
WORTH \$1000.00!!!**

FIRST PRIZE:

**Two Night Getaway for Two at Salem Waterfront Hotel
\$100 Gift Card to the The Ledger Restaurant, Salem
\$50 Gift Card to The Derby Restaurant, Salem
\$60 Gift Certificate for Sunday Jazz Brunch at Hawthorne Hotel**

SECOND PRIZE

Three \$100 Gift Cards

THIRD PRIZE

Kindle Fire

This year we have a fabulous choice of prizes for our multi-prize raffle worth over **\$1000!** AND all you have to pay to have a chance at winning is \$2.00. For \$10.00 you will have 6 chances. Be sure to purchase a book for yourself and sell them to your friends and family.

- ❖ **The FIRST prize** is a **FUN TWO Nights** at a beautiful hotel in Salem with meals at three exciting and different Salem restaurants.
- ❖ **SECOND prize** are **three \$100 Gift Cards**
- ❖ **THIRD prize** is the **KINDLE FIRE** to read eBooks, play games, see movies, watch TV episodes etc.

All of the prizes will give you great pleasure-a weekend to remember, cash to splurge with and electronics to expand your world. Please sell as many tickets as you can. They are available in the office or in the Galahad area. **The drawing will be December 15, 2019.**

Marilyn Cloran and Sally Gosselin
Co-Chairs of the Fair

HARVEST FAIR WISH LIST

WE NEED YOU TO DONATE by NOV. 15:

- ❖ **JEWELRY**
- ❖ **NEW HANDMADE ITEMS**
- ❖ **NEW ITEMS FOR GIFT BOUTIQUE TABLE**
- ❖ **SILENT AUCTION**
- ❖ **KNITTED ITEMS**
- ❖ **BOOKS**
- ❖ **CANDY, COOKIES AND BAKED GOODS**

(Please bring these Friday or Saturday am.)

Please do not donate used items other than books and jewelry.

There are:

- ❖ **LAWN SIGNS TO PLACE**
- ❖ **FLYERS TO POST**
- ❖ **RAFFLE TICKETS TO SELL**

**WE ALSO NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR SETUP (Thursday)
TAKEDOWN AND CLEANUP (from 3:00 PM ON)**

- ❖ **FAIR MEETING FOR ALL**
- ❖ **ON SUNDAY, NOV. 17**
- ❖ **AFTER THE 10 AM SERVICE.**

**RAFFLE – QUILT IN CIVIL WAR PATTERN –
TO BENEFIT 2019 HARVEST FAIR**



We will be raffling off the beautiful 60 by 60. in. Civil War patterned Quilt shown above. It has been donated to us for fundraising purposes and is hand/machine made. The proceeds will go toward the 2019 Fair.

The pattern is quite fitting considering that our church is a memorial to Lt. Col. Charles Redington Mudge who died at Gettysburg in 1863 at the young age of 23. At that time quilts were made by wives of soldiers and taken to war or sold for income when their husbands were away. They also were symbols on safe houses that were part of the underground railroad. The colors were the honor colors with shades of red, gold and blue but dull. This quilt has those colors as well as many others and would blend with many decors.

This is an exceptional quilt that can be used on a couch or even as a tablecloth. It would be a conversation piece in any room. It is washable. Tickets are \$2. Each or 6 for \$10.

The drawing is December 15, 2019

STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

2020 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Our Stewardship pledge ingathering will be on Sunday, December 8th. The Stewardship Team Ministry, along with the Finance Committee and the Vestry have decided that we will use the weeks between November 3rd and the ingathering on December 8th to present and explain the financial challenges that we are facing. We will be talking about the facts and figures as well as the spiritual challenges ahead of us. We will be asking everyone at St Stephen's to participate and hope to have multiple opportunities for conversations.

The Sunday stewardship themes will be

November 3rd – All Saints Day Why the 2020 budget is different than the past

November 10th – Sowing bountifully to reap bountifully and the joy of giving

November 17th – Going over the budget numbers and being excited about the future

November 24th – Feast of Christ the King Thanksgiving and expressing gratitude

December 1st – Advent 1 and New Beginnings

December 8th – Stewardship Pledge Ingathering

NURTURING THE CONGREGATION

THANKSGIVING COMMUNION AT ST. STEPHEN'S TOWERS NOVEMBER 19TH AT 2:30PM.

Come pray and sing with the St. Stephen's Tower community (25 Pleasant Street, Lynn) as we give thanks for the abundance of our lives.

HEALING PRAYER & PASTORAL CARE TEAMS MEETS NOVEMBER 7th. The Pastoral Care and Healing Prayer Teams will gather at 10:30am on Thursday, November 7th to check-in, organize visits for November. If you know anyone that might appreciate a visit please let Rev. Tom or contact the office at 781.599.4220.

PRAYERS FOR VETERANS. On Sunday, November 10th, we will give thanks for all those connected with the St. Stephen's family who have served or are serving in the US Armed Forces. Please check the list in the Galahad Area to ensure that the names of those you would have us remember are listed accurately.

ADVENT BEGINS DECEMBER 1st. The Church goes dark on December 1st as we begin a new Church Year. December tends to be cold, dark, and busy in the world, and Christians struggle to create a space for the waiting and wondering of the season. In an effort to provide spaciousness during Advent, resources for daily prayer will be available in the Galahad Area.

BIBLE STUDY ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, 6:30 – 8:00pm. Come join us as we finish up reading through the Gospel of Luke.

Join New England Episcopalians in D.C. December 4-5. Love God, Love Neighbor Advocacy in Action. This two-day training and advocacy initiative in Washington DC will focus on gaining protections for refugees. Consists of day of advocacy training and practice to prepare to meet with senators and representatives the following day. For additional information, please contact Rev. Dr. Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa at 617.482.4826 ext. 400 or jbntagengwa@diomass.org.

HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



CHRISTMAS PRESENTS PROJECT FOR KIDS (CPPK) For over a decade St. Stephen's has organized a Christmas toy drive for underserved children in Lynn. We had an excellent planning meeting last Sunday 18 people, about half were young people. Moving forwards we have the following opportunities for volunteers:

- ❖ Signing up families on Friday November 22nd, December 6th and December 13th from 3:00-6:00 PM.
- ❖ Our youth will be shopping for gifts on Saturday morning, December 14th. We will also need adults to help and to drive to the Walmart in Salem.
- ❖ Organizing and bagging the gifts on Sunday, December 16th after the 10 AM service.
- ❖ Gifts distribution on Thursday, December 19th.

We are also seeking donations. Money can be mailed in or put in the collection plate. Please clearly mark it for "CPPK." Individuals are also welcome to do your own shopping. We need for all ages: toys, winters hats/scarves/gloves, cards & board games, sport equipment, books, and art supplies.

Sign-up sheets are in the Galahad area. For more information speak to Bonnie Bishop, Rev. Tom or the Office.

THE ELF PROJECT: CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR ST. STEPHEN'S CHILDREN AND YOUTH

For many years members of Trinity Church, Topsfield, and St. Andrew's, Marblehead, have purchased gifts for needy children and youth at St. Stephen's. This year, because of limited resources we are asking that Elf Project requests be limited to children who participate in the life of the parish. There will be registration forms in the Galahad area. Requests must be received by Sunday November 17th. The gifts will be distributed on Sunday, December 22nd. If you have any questions please speak to Rev. Tom Barrington.

MIDDLE SCHOOL RETREAT WEEKEND! Friday, November 15-Sunday, November 17 at Barbara C. Harris camp in Greenfield, NH. Online registration is now open at <https://www.diomassyouth.org>. The Diocesan youth retreats are led by the Diocesan Youth Council. The weekend features small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship to get everyone moving and thinking, music by a live band and some much-needed time away

in order to pay more attention to the Spirit of God. Scholarship support is available, as is bus transportation. Registration closes when capacity is reached.

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, 201 WASHINGTON STREET, CHELSEA ADVENT EVENT: Las Posadas/Searching for Shelter. The people of San Lucas in Chelsea invite diocesan youth to join in this bilingual celebration on December 21, 2019 of traditional Advent processions, Novenas, music, food and hospitality. For additional information please contact Rev. H. Mark Smith @hmsmith@diomass.org

THE EPISCOPAL YOUTH EVENT TUESDAY, JULY 7,2020 THRU SATURDAY, JULY 11,2020 AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY, 2400 6TH STREET NW,WASHINGTON, DC Every three years, Episcopal Church young people come together for an international gathering of worship, workshops, exploration and fun. The event is organized by a team of young people from across the church.

EYE20 will be held in partnership with the Washington National Cathedral and the Diocese of Washington on the campus of Howard University. Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry is scheduled to be one of the featured speakers. Young people attend as part of their diocesan delegation. Contact the diocesan youth missionary, the Rev. H. Mark Smith, for more information at hmsmith@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 214.

LAS FRONTERAS PILGRIMAGE. The program will begin with an organizational meeting in January, and will include several site visits around the diocese to see Faith in Action. At each site, participants will explore issues of security and hospitality, stranger and neighbor, privilege and disadvantage, discipleship and servant leadership, all while participating in community service projects across eastern Massachusetts and developing a community of faith and support among themselves. The program will culminate in the group's pilgrimage to the US/Mexico borderlands in August 2020. The application deadline is December 13, 2019. For additional information please contact hmsmith@diomass.org or 617.482.4826, ext. 214.

DEEPENING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

WITTRUP'S SPAGHETTI SUPPER SUPPORTS CPPK. Saturday, November 30th take a break from turkey, football, and shopping; come to the Wittrup's Spaghetti Supper, which raises funds for CPPK. Seatings are at 4pm, 5pm, 6pm, and 7pm, and cost \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Everyone is welcome to come enjoy good food for a good cause.

CALLING ALL TURKEYS or CHICKEN (FROZEN ONES THAT IS)! Our Food Pantry will give out Thanksgiving turkeys and chickens again this year. If you can donate a frozen turkey or chicken, we would be greatly appreciated. Due to freezer storage issues, please bring turkeys to the church on Sunday, November 10th or Tuesday morning the 12th. If you can help with turkey distribution or with turkey pick up from the Food Bank, speak with Rev. Tom Barrington or Brandi Walker at 781.599.4220.

COME ON IN! Just as a reminder that since the cooler weather is here, on Sunday mornings, all the exterior doors to the church will be closed but unlocked. Our great front doors will be open ten minutes prior to the start of worship and will close ten minutes after the start of the service. However, they will remain unlocked during worship. Please know that the doors being closed are an attempt to conserve heat and while providing a comfortable room temperature.

ECCO EVENTS COMING UP

November White Caucus Meeting

When: Thursday, 11/14, 6pm - Potluck dinner, 6:30pm-8pm Meeting

Where: Sacred Heart Parish Hall, [571 Boston St., Lynn](#)

What: Join us for food, fellowship, and training and discussion on how to be white allies in racial justice work. More details coming soon!

November People of Color Caucus Meeting

Saturday, 11/23

Details of this meeting are still being worked out.

ECCO Annual Dinner and Potluck

When: Sunday, 12/1, 5-8pm

Where: First Church Swampscott, [40 Monument Ave., Swampscott, MA](#)

What: Join us to connect with ECCO's diverse communities, reflect on and celebrate our work in 2019, and imagine what we will do together in 2020!

175TH ANNIVERSARY MEMENTOS

The beautiful 175th Anniversary Memento will be on sale after Sunday services as well as at the fair. Photos of it were in the last newsletter. It is \$20. If it has to be mailed postage is \$5. More. If you cannot get to the church, please send a check made out to St. Stephens and it will be mailed to you.



POEM FOR THE MONTH

TO MIKE AND DALE ON YOUR WEDDING DAY

One day last August I woke up at 3:30 A.M. in a rented house.
It was dark. Trees I could barely see were stirring.

I didn't quite know where I was. The bed was small and not
my bed. I rolled onto my side, reached out and touched
your hip, Bonnie.

I let it rest there until I knew where I was. Then I fell asleep
and dreamed of home.

We've been married thirty-one years. I hope you will have
the kind of happiness we have had—not altogether free
of ill health or grief, for few escape those, but glad to
wake up smiling, as Bonnie almost always does.

Perhaps you will wake up tonight when it is dark and the
bed is strange. Perhaps you will reach out to touch a
familiar hip. Then you can go back to sleep, knowing the
world is all right. And you are smiling.

--Con Squires

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

St. Stephen's Events

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 All Saints Day	2 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
3 Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost All Saints' Sunday: 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 11:30 am Search Committee Meeting	4 6:30 pm Search Committee Meeting 8:00 pm AA	5 7:00 pm NA	6 6:30 pm Bible Study	7 10:30 am Healing Prayer & Pastoral Care Team Meeting 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	8 3:00 pm Food Pantry	9 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
10 Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 12:00 pm Women's Group	11 Veterans Day (OFFICE CLOSED) 6:30 pm Search Committee Meeting 8:00 pm AA	12 6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm NA	13 10:00 am Scott Energy Tune-up 6:30 pm Bible Study	14 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 7:00 pm Beloved Community Team	15 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Lynn Museum Lynn Arts Fall Fundraiser	16 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
17 Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	18 6:30 pm Search Committee Meeting 8:00 pm AA	19 2:30 pm Communion at the Towers 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm Stewardship Ministry Team	20 6:30 pm Bible Study	21 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	22 3:00 pm CPPK SIGN UP	23 9-3 Harvest Fair 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
24 Last Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation	25 6:30 pm Search Committee Meeting 8:00 pm AA	26 7:00 pm NA	27 6:30 pm Bible Study	28 Thanksgiving Day 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers	29 Black Friday 3:00 pm Food Pantry	30 St Andrew the Apostle 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 4:00 pm CPPK Spaghetti Supper