

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



Our Mission: To make Christ known and to spread the good news of the Gospel; to nourish the spiritual growth of the congregation; to serve the local community and the world in Christ's Name; and to be responsible stewards of our time, talent, and treasure.

October 25, 2017



Almighty and Everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost
October 29, 2017

Deuteronomy 13:1-12
I Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17



**ANNUAL ALL HALLOW'S EVE
SERVICE AND FESTIVAL**

OCTOBER 25, 2017

**5:30 P.M. SERVICE IN CHURCH
6:00 P.M. FESTIVAL IN
PARISH HALL**

COME JOIN US FOR THE FUN!

**Games
Haunted House
Prizes
Hot Dogs and more
Treats and Snacks**

Wear your special costume



Godly Play will be having an **Intergenerational Sunday on October 29th** during the Sunday School hour. The children in the Godly Play classes will be filling “Personal Care” bags to distribute to clients at the Chard Wray Food Pantry. We invite everyone from the congregation to help with this effort!

You may have hotel ‘samples’ of soap, shampoo, etc. that you can contribute. You can also pick up some items (small sizes) when you do your shopping. We’ll have boxes for your donations outside both of the Godly Play classrooms and one in the Parish Hall.!

THANKS so much for your help! We would love to have you join us in filling these bags at 9:30 on Sunday, October 29th.



Operation Christmas Child

We still have a few shoeboxes available to fill with toys and other items which will be sent to children around the world in an effort to share the Good News of God’s Greatest Gift...His Son, Jesus Christ.

Shoeboxes may be picked up in the parish hall. List of suggested gifts and age ranges (Boy/Girl) on table in parish hall. Other instructions in shoebox.

Filled shoeboxes are due to be returned to the parish office by November 1. However, you may bring them in any time before that. And don’t forget to include cash or check for \$9 to cover shipping. Thanks.



Memorial Pilgrimage to Athens October 28th

The Beloved Community: Commission for Dismantling Racism for the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta and the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing invite you on a pilgrimage to the historic Chestnut Grove Baptist Church in Athens on October 28, 2017.

The day's activities will include a Liturgy for Martyrs at Chestnut Grove Baptist Church where the Rev. Naomi Tutu will preach. Following the service will be a screening of the documentary film 13th, as well as a tour of the Chestnut Grove School (founded in 1887) and the cemetery containing graves of folks who had been held in slavery.

For more information and to register, click [here](#). Although not listed on the website, there will be a bus coming from Macon that can stop near Milledgeville and pick up (and return) those who don't want to drive. The cost to ride the bus will be \$15. Please contact Deacon Barbara if interested in riding the bus.



Hello! Just wanted to let you know that registration is open for Junior DYC at Camp Mikell! It is for 6th - 8th grade.

Laura and I will provide transportation to and back for any youth who would like to attend.

The cost is \$100 and if that is prohibitive, please let us know as we don't want that to be the reason that your youth can't attend! This is a great opportunity for your youth and we hope they will be able to attend.

Please email me once you have registered, so we know we have enough seats to transport. We will provide more details of when we will leave/meet when it gets closer! So excited for this for our youth!

The link for registration - <https://public.serviceu.com/RegistrationForm/9725064-393502249/?OrgKey=7d7ed618-26bb-48b6-b8da-5273f3545433>

Please let me know if you have any questions! Rosie and Laura

"Prayer is, first and foremost, not about asking God to rearrange the universe according to my specifications, but asking God to rearrange me.

***The Bishop of Chicago
The Rt. Rev. Jeff Lee***



Activities at St. Stephen's

Listed below are some of the dates to put on your calendar. More information will be forthcoming in newsletters closer to the dates.

Everyday	Pick up Christmas Child Shoebox—parish hall
October 24	New Directory pictures
October 25	All Hallow's Eve Service and Fall Festival Halloween party)
October 29	Intergenerational Sunday project at 9:15
November 1	Turn in Christmas Child Shoeboxes to parish office
November 12	In-Gathering Sunday and Luncheon
November 23	Thanksgiving lunches to shut-ins fromCrockett's)
November 23 & 24	Office closed.
December 3	Advent Wreath Making at 9:15 in parish hall
December 10	Annual Meeting/luncheon
December 17	Greening of the church
December 24	Children's Christmas program at 5:30 p.m.
December 25	Christmas Eve service~9:30pm Christmas Day service at 10:00 am

Consecration Sunday Is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Renée J. Fontenot & Michael Watson
Governing Board Chairpersons

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH PRAYER LIST

BIRTHDAYS:

Stephen Houser, Gail Spivey, Charles Whipple, Barnie Collins

BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY:

Justin Burch, Laura Burch, Catherine Daniel, Kristin Davall, Jenny Geist, Paula Hallman, Rosie Lowndes

SPECIAL PRAYERS:

Joe Davall, Kathy McGee, Hannah Layfield, Meredith Griffith, Jane Payne, Josh Thompson, Carl Hays, Cooper Brown, Rebecca Edwards, Abby Crumbley, Martha Marian Kingery, Alan McGee, Marilynne McLaughlin, Lisa Edwards, Jackie Simmons Russell, Corliss Pickron, Gaelon Doss, Chris Flury, Ben Robinson, Jan Hardy, Pat Maggard, Ralph Kudart, Frank Thompson, Colin Fitzpatrick, Dot Collins, Fred Harris, Ken Maynard, Randall Murray, Duane Hauser, Adele George, Clem Pennington, Mary Thomas, Bill Flury, Nancy Underwood, Leo Ratchford, Addie Dean, Frances Nix, Bobby Sewell, Donna Lewis, Warren Westrom, Kim Foster, Sheryl Black, Jerry Collins, Mary Moore Jones, Cindy Robinson, Jeff Root, Miriam Allen, Paula Hallman, Dominick Scott Peterson, Lynn McEachin, Polly Morris, Ruth Owens, Glenda Rogers, Mary Lou Hauser, Ruth Rule, Don Neal, Marianne Joris, Larry Moore

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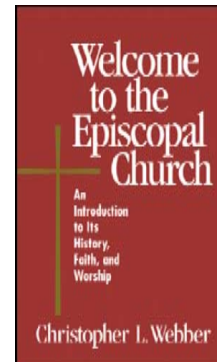
The loose plate offering on the first Sunday of the month goes to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. We hope you will participate in this ministry with a contribution. Thanks.



*I wonder* how many ears will hear the stories in Godly Play this year?

*I wonder* what kind of work those stories will inspire our Children?

**Every Sunday**  
**9:00 - Children's Choir**  
**9:30 - Godly Play**



**ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

**SUNDAYS AT 9:15 A.M.**

**GARNER ROOM PLEASE JOIN US!**

### ***Things to Remember***

*Prayer Shawls are always available for special events. Contact Anne Burgamy for more information. 478-454-8330*

*Special prayer request cards are available in pew racks. You may put them in offering plate, in the "church" in the narthex, or in the parish office.*

**Calendar for October 29 ~ November 4**

Sunday 29 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:15 a.m. Christian Formation  
9:30 a.m. Intergenerational Sunday  
Choir Warm-Up  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

Monday 30 10:15 a.m. VA Service  
Wednesday 1 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
Saturday 4 5:30 p.m. Celtic Eucharist

**Those Who Serve October 28**

LEM & Lay Reader: Claire Shepard  
Usher(s): Bill Hinton

**Those Who Serve October 29**

LEM & Lay Reader: 8:00 a.m. Maidana Nunn  
10:30 a.m. Stephen Bradley, Joey Davall  
Usher(s): 8:00 a.m. Bill Eason  
10:30 a.m. Mary Lou Hauser, Marshall Jackson  
Vergers: Anne Burgamy  
Acolytes: Kathleen Augustine, Emma Kate Godin  
Daisy Hardigree, Emma Avant, Abby Avant

Children's Chapel:  
Altar Guild: Jill Hinton, Polly Echols, Jeannette Holsey  
Jo Williamson, Sue Wright

Flower Guild: Jo Williamson, Barbara Stevens  
Counters: Debbie Eason, Jeff Ivey  
Vestry Person of the Day: Fred Godin

**URGENT CALL FOR HELP**

If you have watched the news in the last few weeks and seen the people of Puerto Rico standing in the ruins of what was their home with looks of hopelessness and desperation on their faces, I have a way you can help.

Episcopal Relief & Development is partnering with the Episcopal Diocese of Puerto Rico to provide urgently needed food, water and medicine. In advance of Hurricane Maria, the organization sent emergency support, ensuring that the diocese's relief and pastoral teams are equipped to offer assistance as quickly as possible. In addition, ERD is working in the Virgin Islands to help with Hurricane relief.

If you want to help, contact  
Episcopalrelief.org or call  
**855.312.4325**. Clearly marked  
donations can be turned into the church  
office, or dropped into the offering plate,  
and will be sent to ERD.