



The WITNESS

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Troy, Michigan 48098

September Special 2016

Mother Susan's
Musings

Welcome Back Sunday, September 11



I'm looking forward to seeing the families and individuals who have had summer adventures. We missed you! Please use this issue of The Witness to mark your calendar and hang page 5 on the bulletin board or fridge, so you won't miss any of the great offerings described in this issue.

From my perspective, the theme of this program year is Making Connections. The Vestry just spent a retreat evening with Canon Jim Gettel, and you will hear more about the process we began with him, recognizing and connecting our strengths with the needs around us.

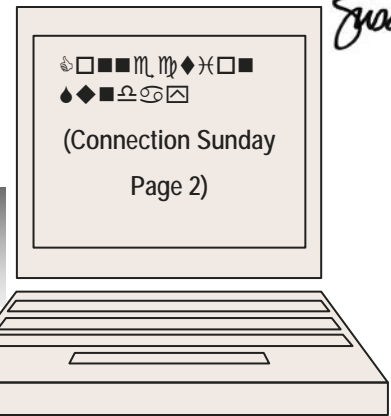
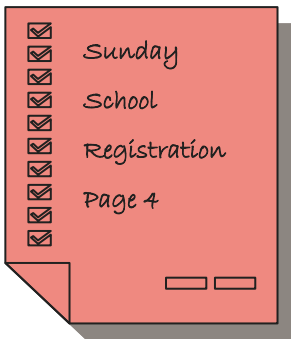
We have many great assets to share – from our building, to our staff and programs, to the many connections YOU have in the community. As you read about the great things going on within St

Stephen's this fall, keep your ears and your heart open for the Holy Spirit's nudging. Where should you and I build a piece God's Kingdom next?

The ministries will kick off on Sunday, September 11 – fifteen years since our world changed for the worse; a new year to prove again that love will conquer fear and death, through people of hope. That's us, friends of Jesus. And during the fall we will announce occasions to add your gifts to the "asset map" of our church. We have so many blessings to share.

Faithfully and expectantly yours,

Susan

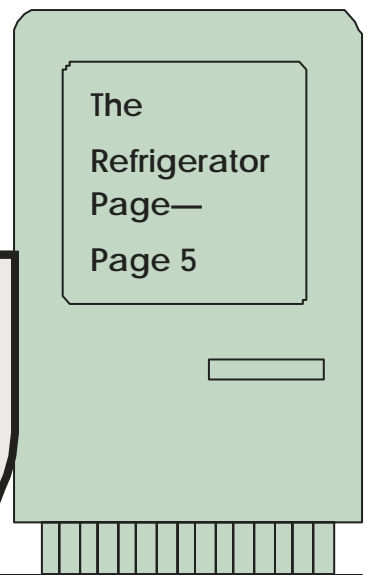


YOUTH - TWO FALL LOCK INS - PAGE 4

Underground Railroad—Page 3

**Welcome Back Sunday
September 11**

MUSICAL NOTES—PAGE 2



Page 3



Worship

Adult Bible Study of Psalms

The Bible's collection of Psalms contain many of the best-known and -loved verses in Scripture. "The Lord is my shepherd..." "By the waters of Babylon..." "Sing to the Lord a new song..." And just about every human emotion: Joy, fear, desire, despair, thanksgiving, penitence, exultation.

Join us Wednesdays at 10 am, as our weekly Adults' Bible Study begins their investigation of The Psalms, starting in September. Each participant will have a chance to research and share their favorite. What's yours?



Proclaim the Good News

Each Saturday and Sunday, a dedicated team of lectors, prayer-leaders, acolytes, ushers and chalice-bearers (EMs) make our Episcopal tradition of orderly worship possible. Have you ever felt called to join them, or just to learn more? Maybe you'd prefer behind-the-scenes options. The Altar Guild would greet you with open arms! St Stephen's worship teams will especially look for new members this September, and will provide all the necessary training. Talk with someone already involved; or let Mother Susan know.

Music

Moving into my third season with the St. Stephen's family, I find myself more excited than ever about what we have to offer with our music ministry. We're building off of past success with new programs and changing just a few things. Here's what to look out for:

- Choir rehearsal will begin Thursday, September 8th, 7:30 to 9 pm. Please note the change of days from Wednesday to Thursday. All are welcome to join our group.
- Praise Band Worship - third Sunday of the month. Join the Praise Band for blended worship on the third Sunday of each month
- Weekly children's music time during Sunday worship services - bring your kids for a regular musically enhanced Sunday School
- St. Stephen's Music Society - monthly concerts beginning September 23rd at 7:30. This first concert will feature Diane Schoff, Clodagh Earls, Linda Meehan and Carol Wood from the Michigan Opera Theater for an all Richard Strauss program.

See me for the full concert schedule.

Please reach out to me or members of the choir to learn more. Thank you all for your support of the St. Stephen's Music Program.

John Pavik



CONNECTION SUNDAY September 18



During this special Fellowship Hour you can:

- Learn more about your Apple Tablet
- Get better connected through Facebook
- Find out how to get more from our website
- Hear how to get connected to the web anywhere
- Find out what resources are available in your area
- Ask questions about whatever the tech you want!

SOS

SOS week is just around the corner! We will be hosting guests from September 25 through October 2. There are many ways you can welcome our neighbors and make them feel at home at St. Stephen's. It takes a small army to make this week special for those who are in need of a warm meal, a safe, comfortable place to sleep, and a welcoming environment to lessen their burden.

Please consider:

- Driving a guest to or from their destination
- Sign-up to help out at church that week with many jobs and opportunities that will be posted in the Gathering Area
- Offer to make a homemade dessert
- Make a monetary donation for grocery items needed for breakfasts and lunches
- Visit and spend time with guests in the evenings
- Help with set-up and/or take-down
- Help with laundry
- Help in the kitchen and wash dishes
- Offer to assist in light housekeeping
- Help serve a meal
- Help with lunch preparation
- Help with breakfast set-up and preparation

I know pulling together in community for our community is our greatest asset as our parish family. I hope your heart and hands are ready for the transforming week we have in store.

Feel free to call Corinne Fragnoli or Miranda Spates with any questions.

Warm regards,
Corinne Fragnoli and Miranda Spates

On The Road

The Sunday, September 4th road trip to the Church of the Messiah is sure to be an eye-opening experience as we will be witnessing the wonderful work being done for their community by a church that is providing both spiritual and vocational guidance.

Rev. Barry Randolph has been a leader in developing programs for housing, urban gardening, and vocational growth in the neighborhoods and has been nationally recognized for these efforts, particularly the "Maker Space" project. The church is the center of much of this activity.

We will be worshipping at the Noon service, taking part in the pot luck lunch that follows, and visiting the Maker Space to see what this is all about. Those interested in carpooling should meet at St. Stephen's at 11 a.m. Please bring a dish to pass for the potluck.

Church of the Messiah is located at 231 E Grand Blvd, Detroit, MI.

Underground Railroad

Visitors participate in the "Flight to Freedom," a storytelling re-enactment of the harrowing journey of slaves between 1840 and 1863. Though not a railroad at all, but a dangerous, exhausting trail over hundreds of miles, fleeing slaves sought refuge in safe houses owned by abolitionists. Visiting passengers on this "underground railroad" travel a heart-thumping, realistic path with their guide, hide from bounty hunters, cross the Ohio River, and finally come to "Midnight," the code name for Detroit. They take safe haven at the First Congregational Church of Detroit as they move on to **-Freedom! Freedom!**

This is an unforgettable experience for the whole family. The group rate for admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for youth and seniors. **The tour does involve many steps and uneven terrain.** Sign up in the gathering area to car-pool to the historic First Congregational Church of Detroit, 33 Forest Ave., Detroit 48201 www.the-ugrr.org

Norma Ross

ALWAYS AVAILABLE

- MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ 7AM ON MONDAYS
- ADULT BIBLE STUDY @ 10AM ON WEDNESDAYS
- YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY @ 7PM ON THURSDAY

For more information contact Ken at formation@ststephenstroy.org or 248.894.2614

YACYM

Sunday School Registration The Waters of New Life

The new Sunday school year begins on September 11 with registration at 9:45. If weather allows we will have the table outside the main entrance of the church. At that time families can fill out a registration form as well as the annual permission form for youth.

The schedule changes slightly this year as the Pre – K through 5th grade classes will all now begin at 10 a.m. The kids will be greeted by their teachers with fun “welcome back” activities and treats. Rite 13, J2A, and YAC will all still meet after communion as we have in the past.

Music will also be an important part of the younger kids Sunday school experience this year as John Pavik will be working with them for about 10 minutes during class each Sunday. We will be using our VBS theme song, “Come to the Water” as our first song of the year so we all get off to a great start as we learn more about the waters of new life.

Lock Ins and Mission

This youth program gets off to a fast start with a two lock-ins and two outreach experiences in the first 8 weeks. Here’s what’s happening

JOURNEY KICK OFF LOCK-IN

- Fri/Sat September 16 & 17 -for J2A, YAC, and Friends!
- Laser Tag, Pizza, Games, Movies, etc.

SOS WEEK YOUTH OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- Sunday, September 25 – Set up and prepare for our guests during Sunday school
- Saturday, October 1 – Prepare and serve a nice Italian dinner, starting at 5pm!
- Sunday, October 2 – YAC washes the linens starting at 8 am

Teachers and Leaders

We are so blessed to have these amazing people ministering to our children and youth this year:

- Nursery – Quinn O’Neill
- Pre-K through 3rd Grade – Jackie Ingersoll and Martha Szott
- 4th & 5th Grade – Margie Armstrong and Elizabeth Roberts
- Rite 13 – Mark Pierce and Liz Sinkovich
- J2A – Anna Dorsey and Alan Giles
- YAC – Scott Armstrong and one of you!

New Baldwin Outreach

Thursday, October 6th our youth will prepare and serve dinner to Baldwin youth from 5pm to 7pm. In the past the youth of our parish prepared and served lunch to our sisters and brothers at Baldwin Center one Sunday each month during the spring. Baldwin is no longer serving lunch on Sunday because so many places already provide meals that day. Because of this, they are starting a new after school dinner program for youth. Our youth have been asked to help prepare and serve dinner once a month for this pilot program.

one World



An Alzheimers Caregivers Group meets at Holy Cross Episcopal Church, Novi. The group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am in the parish hall. It offers support and open discussion for all those dealing with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.

The Refrigerator Page

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 @ NOON

- VISIT TO THE CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH IN LIEU OF 10AM SERVICE ALL

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 @ 7:30

- CHOIR REHEARSALS BEGIN! NEW SINGERS ADORED.....MUSIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 @ 9:45

- SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION.....YACYM

FRIDAY/SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16-17 @ 7:00PM

- YOUTH LOCK-IN FOR J2A AND YAC.....YOUTH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 @ FELLOWSHIP HOUR

- CONNECTION SUNDAY.....ADULTS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

- SOS.....ALL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8 @ 9:30AM – 1:00PM

- UNDERGROUND RAILROAD EXCURSION..... ALL

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14 @ 8:00PM

- SILENT MOVIE CONCERT.....ALL

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21-22 @ 7:00PM

- HAUNTED LOCK-IN FOR J2A & YAC WITH GUESTS FROM CCC.....YOUTH

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21-22

- 2016 DIOCESAN ANNUAL CONVENTION IN EAST LANSINGDELEGATES

One Family

Bible Study

For all who are interested in weekly Bible Study, the "no experience necessary" bible study is held in the Bishop Emrich lounge, each Wednesday at 10 am. Newcomers are always welcome! Join Mother Susan each week and explore!



September 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Please check the website for the most up-to-date calendar of events www.ststephenstroy.org

How to Contact Us

Church Office: (Open 9:30-1:30 weekdays)

Tel: 248-641-8080 Fax: 248-641-8067

Cathy Hoffman, Parish Administrator/Accountant
office@ststephenstroy.org

The Rev. Susan Anslow Williams—Rector

Cell: 716-397-0997 (voice or text)

Home: 248-732-7955

rector@ststephenstroy.org

The Rev. Jim Maxwell, Retired Priest in Residence

jimmardi@wowway.com

John Pavik—Music Director

musicdirector@ststephenstroy.org

Ken Fuhr—Director of Christian Formation

formation@ststephenstroy.org

Jim Trask, Treasurer

Cathy Hoffman, Assistant to the Treasurer

treasurer@ststephenstroy.org

Church Website: Ken Fuhr, Webmaster

www.ststephenstroy.org (password: coffeeshour)

The Witness, Liz Sinkovich, Editor

witness@ststephenstroy.org

E-mail, bring to church or fax: 248-641-8067

Building Manager/Sexton—Nikki Kamicka

mrskamicka@yahoo.com

248-825-5714

Weekly Services:

Sat. 4:30 p.m.

Informal Service

Sun., 8 a.m.

Early Eucharist

Sun, 10 a.m.

Eucharist with Music, Nursery and Sunday School

If you have e-mail, you can receive our newsletter faster! Please send your e-mail address to office@ststephenstroy.org. Thank you in advance for helping us with our continued effort to....THINK GREEN!

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

5500 North Adams Road

Troy, MI 48098

Please remember St. Stephen's in your will

Change Service Requested

Dated Material

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL 2016