

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church



The Servant

August 2006 Volume 14 Issue 6

West Valley City, Utah

Rector's Reflections

I make no secret of the fact that come August I am ready for a break from the seemingly unrelenting heat of summer and am ready for the cooler days and brisk nights of Autumn. Autumn is I believe my favorite season as we move into a new rhythm of life and the church year. Spring may be the time for new growth in nature, but Autumn marks the beginning of new growth for many of us: school begins and the church program year begins again.

I encourage you to read through the articles on our Sunday School program and Youth Ministries activities for the coming year. Martha and Eileen Rice and Becky Ball have put together a very full and exciting program for the coming year. I hope all families will take advantage of the enthusiasm and energy that our leaders are putting into these programs for the coming year.

This time of year is also the time when I see our summer travelers returning to church and the feeling on Sunday's begins to build throughout the Fall. This Summer has not been the easiest of times to even get into St. Stephen's with the road construction, but that should be ending in September as we begin our new program year.

We have plans for a very full and enjoyable church year. I encourage you to take advantage of our educational opportunities for adults and children/youth. Our Worship of Wednesday continues to thrive. Please join us for dinner at 6 p.m. and Eucharist at 7 p.m. followed by a program every week.

St. Stephen's has many vital and interesting programs and ministries. Come share in our fellowship as well as the breaking of the bread and the prayers of our parish community.

Peace,
Fr. Lee ^

Vestry

With autumn fast approaching, we are looking forward to resuming some of the ministries we took a respite from during the summer. Hopefully the road construction project will soon be completed, easing our drive to and from St. Stephen's. The vestry will be looking at ways to implement Bishop Irish's "Living Boldly" initiative at St. Stephen's. Sunday School, the comfort ministry, and EFM will once more be among our regular activities. The 2007 budget is nearing completion for submission to the Diocese, and that brings up our Stewardship drive which will be taking place before we know it. Our priests, deacon, wardens and delegates are gearing up for the Diocesan Convention in late October where we hope to represent you, our parish "family" reverently and responsibly.

- Isabel Sullivan, Senior Warden.

Worship Committee

We are continuing to use a simpler bulletin, relying on the Prayer Book and Hymnal for most of the service. No committee meeting has occurred recently.

If you have a personal Book of Common Prayer, you may wish to bring it with you on Sundays for your use. Use the ribbons provided by WoW! to bookmark the hymns in the hymnals

- Martin Willcocks

WoW! Worship on Wednesdays

Our Worship on Wednesday gatherings still draw a good size group despite all the summer's vacations, road construction, and other activities in people's lives. Some come for the meal, worship service, and program, while others come for one or two parts; nevertheless, all are welcome. We are asking for help in the meal preparation, setup, and cleanup in the next few months, as some of our regulars have other commitments during this time. If you have thought of sharing a fantastic main dish, bread or entree, this is your opportunity. There will be help available for you, and we would really appreciate your contribution and a diversity in our menus. There is a signup sheet in the parish hall, and you can discuss your thoughts with me if you are unsure of quantities, special considerations, etc. Thanks to all of you who have helped and continue to do so.

- Isabel Sullivan

Parish Prayers

Each Sunday we print the names of people we hold in prayer as a community. I invite you to take this home with you each week and remember these people throughout the week in your own prayer life. I note some information on a couple of our parishioners on the prayer list: Elton Varner continues to recover from a serious fall and Maggie Wilde is recuperating from her therapy. Jody Heilesen and Jessica Conaty continue to be visited by parishioners who help keep them in touch with the parish.

- Lee Shaw

Coffee Hour

Do you think “the church” provides the goodies, beverages, and cleans up for our fellowship hour after Sunday services? Tain’t so! It is volunteers like you who provide this fellowship hour ministry, and without your help it won’t happen! Fewer people have been signing up this summer, and we need you! Please consider signing up to take a turn on the signup sheet in the parish hall. Address questions about this to Fr. Lee, Barbara Burton, or to me.

– Isabel Sullivan

Sunday School

Our church year begins with a Sunday School Ice Cream Fiesta at 9:30, Sunday Sept. 10. See other article are the details of the Sunday School for this year.

On Sept. 17 the regular classes will begin for children and adults. Martin Willcocks will have a class in the Rev’d Marjorie Black Memorial Library. The first six weeks will be a video presentation and discussion, “Walking the Bible,” which aired recently on PBS. Discover the real places and events that make the Bible not only our common history but also a travel guide, with unparalleled footage of the Old Testament locations!

Fr. Lee will have his adult class in the back classroom. Fr. Lee’s class will be an overview of the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion, including our history to the events of this past summer and General Convention. This class for is for all interested in the past and present of our church and the Anglican Communion.

We will be using the book, **Always Open: Being an Anglican Today**, by the Very Rev’d Richard Giles. Dean Giles was a priest in the Church of England for a number of years and then accepted the call to be Dean of the Episcopal Cathedral in Philadelphia, PA. He is also a leading authority on church design and liturgical space. He brings a unique perspective to the face and ethos of the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion. His book should provide ample material for conversations. This class for all members of the parish and is required for those considering Baptism/Confirmation/Reception.

Please let Fr. Lee know if you are interested in this class so that the books may be ordered. Cost will be approximately \$15.

Read more about the children’s classes and the Youth Group on the next pages!

Articles – St. Stephen’s Sunday School Update by Martha Rice

St. Stephen’s Sunday School program will begin September 10th with an ice cream social and a couple of surprises. The parish, but especially our parents and children, are invited to meet and visit with our teachers. It is important for our youth to know that the adults of St. Stephens truly care about and support their activities.

One of the first and most important changes this year is the division of classes. In the past we have had two teachers working with ages 2 to 13. This created many issues because obviously a 2 year old cannot learn at the same level as a 2nd grader. We now have **five** classes (see the list of classes below). Secondly, if we are to build a dynamic Sunday School program, the children would need a sense of continuity. The teachers decided they would teach class full time, relying on a substitute when necessary. The substitute teacher will continue the planned curriculum and activities for that class.

Our 2006-7 teachers are:

Becky Ball, Leah Sanford and **George Johnson** are working with our Junior High students — 4th, 5th and 6th grades

Eileen Rice — 1st, 2nd, and third grades.

Dorothy Alley — 3, 4, and 5 year olds.

Dee Dee Larrabee and **Veronica Scarth-Bach** — nursery.

Amy Penrod, Deanna Anderson, Elmer Mirza, and **Jody Rice** have agreed to serve as substitute teachers.

Jim Rice and **Martha Rice** will assist teachers as roving classroom aides. We will provide the extra hands when needed or help children who have special needs or issues.

As you can see, we are fortunate to have these dedicated and energetic people volunteer for our Sunday School program but we still need your prayers and support. **We need a teacher** for the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades. Also, we have planned special activities to make Sunday School an exciting place to learn about God and his love for us, but more about these events later. Watch the announcement in future issues of the *Servant*, in services, or in the bulletins. If you would like to help with the St. Stephen’s Sunday School program or with its activities, please let the teachers or me know.

–**Martha Rice**, Sunday School Coordinator

SWAP – Scripture, Worship, Amusement, Prayer - by Becky Ball

St. Stephen's Youth Group

The youth group has been meeting throughout the summer for “**Breakfast with the Bible**”. A few of us got together, answered challenge questions, did a quick Bible study and played Bible verse Mad Gabs. It was challenging and fun. On August 18 seven youth and six adults went to **Willard Bay** for a day of boating and fun in the sun. The weather and water were perfect. Everyone had a great time. Check out the photos in the photo album that is floating around.

SWAP will be getting together approximately once a month during the church program year. Some things we will be doing are: going to **Camp Tuttle** (see below); preparing a **Day of the Dead** Altar on Oct. 28; **game night** on November 18 and **Sub for Santa** in December.

This year there will be a **Sunday School Class** for junior and senior high youth (grades 6 through 12). We will be using the Seasons of the Spirit curriculum, which is a lectionary based program. Sunday school will begin with an **Ice Cream Fiesta** on **September 10** at **9:30 a.m.**

There is a **Diocesan Youth Event** – Sabbath Time at Camp Tuttle, Friday, Sept 29 thru Sunday, Oct 2, for 6th thru 12th graders. There is a \$40 fee for this event; if money is a concern, please call Becky, Fr. Lee or Padre Pablo. **Registrations** need to be given to Becky Ball by **September 15**. For more information check the bulletin board or call 652-2300. This event will be the September SWAP get together. Come and get to know other Episcopalians from Utah.

Bishop Carolyn will be visiting San Esteban and St. Stephen's on Sunday, November 12 for a visitation and confirmation. A youth confirmation class will begin September 3 at 9:00 a.m. The class will meet most Sundays until November 12. There will be an overnight retreat for the confirmands on **November 11**. Please contact Becky **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** if you are interested in confirmation.

This year we have three adults, who have graciously volunteered to help with our youth. They are **Brian Bach, George Johnson** and **Leah Sanford**. To them, I extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation.

If you have any questions about the Youth Program, please contact Becky Ball. H) 566-3870 C) 652-2300 W) 581-0380. Or email: bball@allsaintssl.org

Points to Ponder

God be in my head, and in my understanding
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking.
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

Sarum Primer 1514 - Hymn 694

Special Events

As we move into the Fall Season there are a number of special events planned for St. Stephen's.

Sept. 9, Saturday, 8 a.m., Parish Work Party. Please come and help us finish the clean up of the East parking lot and the North driveway.

Sept. 16, Saturday, 10 a.m., St. Stephen's will host the Salt Lake Region II Regional Meeting in preparation for Diocesan Convention. All Delegates and Alternates are encouraged to come to the meeting but it is open to anyone interested in the business of the Diocese that will be presented at Convention.

Oct. 7, Saturday, 9 a.m., the St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals. Please bring your companion animal for a blessing on this annual event at St. Stephen's. All animals are invited, but please have them on a leash, in a traveling crate or otherwise controlled.

Oct. 14, Saturday, 7 p.m., Our Second Annual Founders Day Dinner. Join us for a dinner and social as we celebrate the founding of St. Stephen's Parish. All are invited to this special event as we renew friendships, retell parish stories, and enjoy good food and fellowship. More information on this event will be forthcoming.

Oct. 27-28, Friday and Saturday, Diocesan Convention at the Davis County Convention Center. Please see Fr. Lee for registration information. Registration is due by Sept. 10.

Nov. 12, Sunday, 10:30 a.m., Bishop Carolyn Tanner Irish will make her visitation to St. Stephen's/San Esteban. Confirmations and Receptions will be part of her visitation. If you are interested in Confirmation please see Fr. Lee as soon as possible.

Road Widening

The project to widen 3200 West has continued for several weeks now, and is expected to end in September. Currently, both north and south entrances to the church are open, but the road is blocked to northbound traffic but open to southbound traffic south of the church. You can still enter from the west or the east, via diversions from 3600 West and 2700 West.

Calendar

EVERY SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. San Esteban - Santa Misa
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School (begins September 17th)
- 10:00 a.m. San Esteban - Coffee Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
- 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour – Coffee, Refreshments

WEEKDAYS

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

- 7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
- 7:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship

WEDNESDAYS:

- 6:00 p.m. WoW! Dinner - come, eat and enjoy, you don't have to bring food.
- 7:00 p.m. Midweek Holy Eucharist - Contemporary Holy Eucharist
- 7:30 p.m. 1 Hour scheduled program or discussion

FRIDAYS:

- 8:30 p.m. Granger A.A. Group

SATURDAYS:

- 5:30 p.m. Santa Misa - Rite II
- 6:30 p.m. San Esteban Fellowship Hour

MONTHLY

- 2nd. Tuesday Hymn Selection Meeting
- 3rd. Tuesday Vestry Meetings
- See dates SWAP - Youth Group Meetings

SPECIAL DATES

- September 9 8:00 a.m. Parish Work Party
- September 10 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Ice Cream Social
- September 11 6:30 p.m. EFM starts for 2006-7 year.
- September 16 10:00 a.m. Salt Lake Region II Regional Meeting
- September 17 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for Adults and Children begins
- Sept. 28-Oct. 2 Diocesan Youth Event at Camp Tuttle
- October 7 9:00 a.m. St. Francis Blessing of the Animals
- October 14 7:00 p.m. St. Stephen's 2nd Annual Founders' Day Dinner
- October 27-28 Diocesan Convention at Davis Convention Center.
- October 28 Youth Group Day of the Dead altar
- November 12 10:30 a.m. Bishop Irish's Visitation, Confirmation, Reception

Deadline for the next "Servant" is Monday, October, 2006.

Editor: Martin Willcocks. "The Servant" is St. Stephen's Church Newsletter and all materials in this publication are copyright © 2006 by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, except items from Diocesan Dialogue and other sources copyright respective owners, and "Points to Ponder" (out of copyright).