

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church



The Servant

October, 2006

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West Valley City, Utah

Rector's Reflections

As the seasons turn and we enter the coolness of October, the thoughts of my reflections this month go to the words of one of my favorite poets, Robert Frost:

“October”

*O hushed October morning
mild,
Thy leaves have ripened to the
fall;
Tomorrow's wind, if it be wild,
Should waste them all.
The crows above the forest call;
Tomorrow they may form and
go.
O hushed October morning
mild,
Begin the hours of this day
slow.
Make the day seem to us less
brief.
Hearts not averse to being
beguiled,*

*Beguile us in the way you
know.
Release one leaf at break of
day;
At noon release another leaf;
One from our trees, one far
away.
Retard the sun with gentle
mist;
Enchant the land with
amethyst.
Slow, slow!
For the grapes' sake, if they
were all,
Whose leaves already are burnt
with frost,
Whose clustered fruit must else
be lost –
For the grapes' sake along the
wall.*

May this fall season be a blessed time of returning and warming in the fellowship of family and friends.

Peace,
Fr. Lee †

Baptisms

The next baptisms at St. Stephens will be All Saints Sunday, November 5. If you or your children desire baptism, please Fr. Lee as soon as possible for preparation.

Vestry

After the Worship Committee met and Fr. Lee met with the parents of our younger children, the last Vestry meeting approved a rearrangement of the children's play area at the north end of the church. Three rows of seating with wider spacing between the rows have been placed on the carpet so there is now enough room for all the parents to sit with their young children and infants, which will help to keep the noise to an acceptable level. As mentioned in the bulletin, those who wish to hear the minimum noise are encouraged to sit at the south end as far as possible, while all parents should help their children to participate in the liturgy.

Worship Committee

We are continuing to use a simpler bulletin, relying on the Prayer Book and Hymnal for most of the service. The recent Worship Committee meeting also discussed the upcoming Bishop's Visitation and the reorganization of the carpeted area for young children and their parents (see above.)

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 (WoW) continues to be one of the strengths and pillars of St. Stephens'.

Each Wednesday we gather at 6 p.m. for a wonderful meal, the Holy Eucharist, and a program. The Eucharist is informal and very participatory.

We truly need people to volunteer to help with our community meal for WoW. This is a major part of our time together and we need a strong show of support for this ministry. Please see Isabel Sullivan for information on how easy it is to provide for this dinner.

We have a full offering of interesting and helpful programs for the rest of the year.

Oct. 4 – Fred Quinn will be with us to share stories of our history as a diocese as we look at our 140th celebration as a presence in Utah.

Oct. 11 – Joel Nau, Episcopal-Lutheran Campus Minister, will talk about campus ministry in Utah.

Oct. 18 – Dave Bailey, Diocesan Executive Officer, will be our presenter on “Matters of Race.”

Oct. 25 – Dave Kelly will share about a conference he recently attended, “Sabeel – A Search for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel.”

Nov. 1 & 8 – Mary June Nestler, Canon for Ministry Formation, will have two presentations on “The Episcopal Perspective in a Fundamentalist World.”

Nov. 15 – Craig Wirth, TV commentator, will share some of his research on some of the little known facts and incidents in the history of the diocese.

Nov. 22 – Thanksgiving Service and Program

Nov. 29 – Leah Sanford and members of the Parish Discernment Committee will talk about various aspects of ministry.

As you can see this is a full and varied set of programs for WOW. Please join us for “food for the body, food for the soul and food for the mind.” – *Lee Shaw*

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 Heileson 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*

(NOTE: Isabel is away for a couple of weeks.)

Adult Christian Education

St. Stephen’s offers two adult Christian education classes. Fr. Lee is discussing the book, *Always Open*, as an introduction and conversation to the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion. His class meets in the back classroom.

Martin Willcocks’ class meets in the Marjorie Black Library and is viewing the video of “Walking the Bible,” with Bruce Feiler, in six parts, followed by discussion. Another video series will start in late October.

Articles – St. Stephen’s Youth Group Update by *Becky Ball*

SWAP – Scripture, Worship, Amusement, Prayer

St. Stephen's Youth Group

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 is a Sunday School Class for junior and senior high youth (grades 6 through 12). We have just begun the year of Seasons of the Spirit.

On September 29 some of our youth will attend a Diocesan Youth Event – Sabbath Time at Camp Tuttle.

Bishop Carolyn will be visiting San Esteban and St. Stephens on Sunday, November 12 for a visitation and confirmation. There are 9 youth in the confirmation class, they are: Andrea Diaz, Estephany Diaz, Carlos Garcia, Jr., Carolina Mata, Emmanuel Mata, Luis Meza, Mayra Gallegos, Elias Ramirez, Emily Ramirez. Please keep our confirmands in your prayer

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

We will be planning many fun and exciting programs and events. Please come and join us. – *Becky Ball, Youth Coordinator*

Points to Ponder

A Summer Day in Autumn

A Summer day in Autumn dawns,
Illumines dewdrops on the lawns,
And swallows twitter as they fly
From tree to tree across the sky;
While Cleo, Queen of Siamese,
Basks lazily beneath the trees,
And roses, red and pink and white,
Reach up to grasp the golden light.

The distant trees, in richer hues
Of gold and brown, begin to lose
Their once thick covering of leaves;
And up above, the eye perceives
A canopy of perfect blue,
With not a single cloud in view;
But one thing lacks this Autumn day,
The Summer’s warmth has gone away.

– *Martin Willcocks, Cambridge, England, October 22, 1967.*
(Cleo was the next-door cat.)

Special Events

There are a number of special events planned for St. Stephen's.

Oct. 7, Saturday, 9 a.m. - St. Francis Blessing of the Animals

We will gather for our annual blessing of the animals for the Feast of St. Francis on Saturday, Oct. 7 at 9 a.m. in front of the Gazebo. You are invited to bring your companion animals for a blessing. Please have them on a leash, in a carrier or otherwise controlled.

You are also invited to bring photos of pets who have died and stuffed animals for a blessing of remembrance and love.

All are welcome.

Oct. 14, Saturday, 6:30 p.m. - Second Annual Founders Day Dinner

Please join us for our Second Annual Founders Day Dinner. We will have food, drink and fellowship as we recall the history and heritage of St. Stephen's Parish.

We will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a reception and Dinner at 7 p.m. Please join us for dinner, drinks, raffles and fun for St. Stephen's. We are asking \$5 per person, \$2 per child and \$15 for a family. There will also be a cash bar.

Founder's Day is a significant event in our communal life. We are inviting people to volunteer to help host our anniversary. Please see the sign-up sheet in the parish hall.

St. Stephen's has a rich and unique history in the Diocese of Utah. We were not "planted" or "started" by another parish, rather we sprung up on our own in a laundromat for our first meeting. From the beginning we were a unique and confident community. We continue to thrive and grow as a witness to our Episcopal tradition on the "west side."

Please use the insert or talk to Lee, Carly or Barbara to let us know how many in your family will be coming.

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's Visitation

Bishop Carolyn Tanner Irish will be with us on **Sunday, Nov. 12** for her annual visitation and confirmations and receptions. We will be joined that day with friends from St. Barnabas, Tooele, for confirmation.

Our service will begin at **10 a.m.** and will be hosted by St. Stephen's and San Esteban. The service will be bilingual. Note the change of time.

Following the service we will have a potluck luncheon and celebration for all the confirmands and their families and friends in the parish hall. There will be more information to sign up for this potluck.

Please join us to welcome our new members to the Episcopal Church and Bishop Irish to St. Stephen's on this day.

Road Widening

The project to widen 3200 West has continued for several months now, and work is expected to continue into November. Currently, both north and south entrances to the church are open, but the road is still closed to through northbound traffic. The road has been paved, but there is still some work outstanding on sidewalks, landscaping, striping, etc. so the road signs and diversions will stay signposted until this work has finished.

Points to Ponder

I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a shepherdess on
the green;
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.

They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and his love made them strong;
and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake, the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce
wild beast;
and there's not any reason, no, not the least, why I shouldn't be one too.

They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still;
the world is bright with the joyous saints who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,
in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea,
for the saints of God are just folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

- Lesbia Scott (b. 1898) - Hymn 293

Calendar

EVERY SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. San Esteban - Santa Misa
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Christian Education
- 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

- Sept. 28-Oct. 2 Diocesan Youth Event at Camp Tuttle
- October 7 9:00 a.m. St. Francis Blessing of the Animals
- October 14 6:30 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 10:00 a.m. Bishop Irish's Visitation, Confirmation, Reception

Deadline for the next "Servant" is Monday, November 13, 2006.

Editor: Martin Willcocks.

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