

June 2018

I hope you are enjoying the arrival of spring. The leaves on the trees, the color burst of the flowers and hearing birds in the morning makes my heart glad. I find that I have more energy, which is good because there continues to be work to be done. This June, we are packed with opportunities to worship, serve and learn as we live out our faith.

- June 2nd is the Third Annual Youth Pride Event. Come join us on Saturday to enjoy the energy and enthusiasm of the LGBTQ community and supporters who have too often experienced the Church as a hostile place. Youth Pride Event is a day we show the world that all are accepted and loved by God.
- On June 3rd the Rev. Patrick LaFortune will be preaching and celebrating the Eucharist as a way to give thanks to God for the care and support that St. Stephens has shown him in his journey towards the priesthood. Patrick is currently serving at Church of the Good Shepherd in Reading and was ordained to the Priesthood on May 23rd.
- On June 10th in the morning we will be celebrating and recognizing our children, youth and those who work with them. We will also be awarding the college scholarships.
- On June 10th in the afternoon, the Beloved Community Team is sponsoring an Active Bystander Training. With the help of the theater troop, True Colors, we will get hands on experiences of ways to support those who have to endure racists and discriminatory behavior. If you have ever wondered what you can do to counter racism, here is a supporting but challenging opportunity to learn.
- On June 17th we have the joyous but sad work of saying goodbye to our Life Together Intern, Jamie Shore. She will be preaching at both the 8 and 10 AM services. Jamie has been a faithful and inspired leader, especially with our children and youth. We will miss her and hold her in our prayers as she leaves to begin her studies at Boston University School of Theology.
- June 24th will mark the Eneza Injili Team of the Kenyan/Kiswahili Congregation participating in the New England Anglican Music Festival. The Rev. Zachary Kinyua has been diligently preparing this incredibly talented youth singing group. They hope to be awarded the best group for the second year in a row. Details of the event will be forthcoming.

In addition to all of this, the Kids in Community and the Summer Learning a preparing to begin in July, but that is for next month's newsletter.

I pray that you will enjoy the new life of spring as we, the people that make up St. Stephen's Church, continue to follow and serve our Lord.

Blessing,



The Rev. Tom Barrington

STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

VESTRY SUMMARY. Vestry met this month after the Soul Celebration and discussed upcoming Big Money Raffle, 2017 Audit, and the Community Garden Project.

NURTURING THE CONGREGATION

RAFFLE - QUILT IN CIVIL WAR PATTERN -TO BENEFIT RESTORATION FUND

We will be raffling off a 60 in. by 80. in. (will fit a full size bed) beautiful Civil War-patterned Quilt that has been donated to us for fundraising purposes. It is hand/machine made. Money received will go into our restoration fund.

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 bed and become a conversation piece in any room. It is washable. Please sell tickets to your friends and family and add to our Restoration fund. Tickets will be available after the 10 am service or in the office. They are \$2 each or 6 for \$10.
Marilyn Cloran

ADOPT A GARDEN BED

Do you love to garden but do not have place to cultivate? St Stephens has four raised garden beds next to the handicapped parking lot that are in need of tender love and care. The vestry has approved us offering them to four different families or individuals to adopt for the growing season. Those who are selected to adopt a bed will be in charge of planting, caring for and cultivating all that grows. All the church asks is that 10-20% of the food grown be donated to the food pantry. All those interested should contact the office. We want to adopt them out as soon as possible.

THE BIG MONEY RAFFLE IS COMING IN JULY! Stay tuned for details!

HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

CHURCH SCHOOL WRAPS UP AND GRADUATION CELEBRATION JUNE 10! The last day of Church School classes is Sunday, June 10. During worship we will have an opportunity to thank our teachers and students for all their hard work this past year. Also, our high school graduates will share the lessons they have learned at St. Stephen's and how those lessons will carry them forward in to the future. In addition,

we will award St. Stephen's Scholarships for higher education on June 10. (Applications are due in the office by Sunday, May 27.)

BCH SUMMER CAMP APPLICATIONS ARE PAST DUE. BCH Camp applications were due June 1 and some weeks are already full! The camp offers week-long overnight camp for children and youth grades 4-12. Register online at www.bchcenter.org. Camp costs \$600 with the family paying at least a 1/3 (\$200) of the cost. If this cost is too high please mark the correct box on the online application in order to waive the fee. Although the campership deadline has passed, we will still work with you to try to get your child to BCH Camp. Everyone should have an opportunity regardless of finances. Please talk to Jamie if you need help accessing the online application or need to use her computer to fill it out.

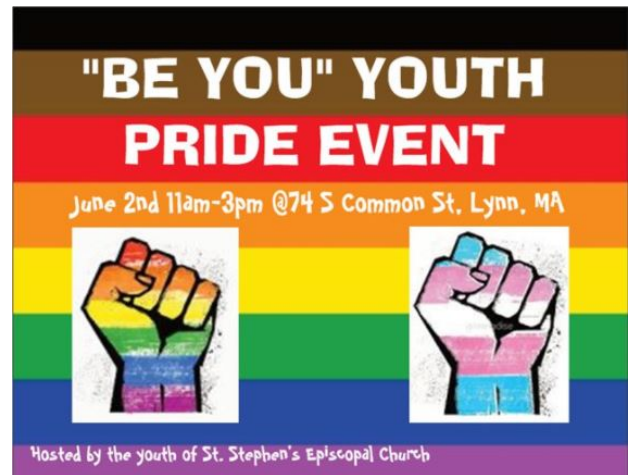
CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR OUR YOUTH MEETING ON JUNE 3rd

Come join us as we brainstorm about youth programming at St. Stephens and think about what matters most to us on June 3rd at 11:45 after church. We will not have a Life together Intern next year, so we have begun to think creatively about what our kids will be doing on Sunday mornings. This parish is blessed to be full of educators! So please join us!

SUMMER LEARNING AT ST. STEPHEN'S HEADS INTO YEAR 4. Summer Learning is getting ready for another great summer. A few slots still remain for children in Grades 1 & 2; sign up today so that your child will not miss this great opportunity for learning and fun. New and returning staff are planning 4 weeks of exciting summer activities in math, reading, writing and some STEM-related learning. The program runs from July 9th-August 2nd Monday through Thursday each week from 2:30-5:30pm. Volunteer opportunities are available. Speak with Micheal Brown if you are interested.

JOIN LYNN YOUTH PRIDE ON SATURDAY JUNE 2.

After months of planning, fundraising and publicizing, it's time for the 3rd annual Lynn Youth Pride Gathering! Youth Pride will be on Saturday, June 2, 11-3 on the front lawn of St. Stephen's. Come enjoy music, food, art projects, information tables and poetry & musical performances. It will be great day as we put into practice our remarkable gifts for hospitality and progressive social actions. We are asking that members of the church to donate baked goods for the kids to eat. A sign-up sheet is in the Galahad Area. If you would like to support this event with your time, talent, or treasure please speak with Jamie Shore or Jason Cruz.



OASIS MEETS FRIDAYS JUNE 8 and 22 AT 6:30. On June 8, we will celebrate the work we did for the LGBTQ pride event and reflect on how the experience of hosting this event was for us. On June 23 we will celebrate the end of the school year with pizza, games and dessert!

DEEPENING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

ECCO SIGNATURE GATHERING NOW THROUGH JUNE 10th. Join ECCO and our community for the final round of signature gathering to get a \$15 Minimum Wage and Paid Family Leave on the MA Ballot! It is up to us to help collect the final 60,000 signatures (total) to ensure that both measures get on the ballot and secure the chance to improve the lives of millions of MA workers. Contact ECCO Organizer Cherish Casey at cherishcasey@eccoaction.org, who can set you up with petitions and training materials. Help officially get raising the minimum wage and paid family & medical leave on the ballot in November! These initiatives are important to increase the economic justice in Massachusetts. Talk to Jamie if you need signature sheets and she can help and talk you through the process. It may seem intimidating at first, but collecting them can also be a good spiritual practice.

CELEBRATE WITH "PROPHETIC HOPE" AT EPISCOPAL CITY MISSION ANNUAL EVENT:

Join Episcopal City Mission on Tuesday, June 12, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul ([138 Tremont Street](#)) in Boston for its annual celebration: an evening focused on social action, fellowship and, this year's theme, prophetic hope: the capacity to fully see the world's brokenness alongside the hope of what God might create through us.

Keynote speaker will be Christena Cleveland (pictured above), a public theologian, social psychologist and professor at Duke Divinity School. She is also the author of *Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces that Keep Us Apart*.

The event is free to all. As this is Episcopal City Mission's annual fundraiser, contributions and sponsorships are welcome. RSVP and find more information [here](#).

SONIA HODGE'S ORDINATION TO THE DEACONATE, SATURDAY JUNE 2, 10:30PM

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH 116TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION JUNE 24, 11AM. Zion Baptist Church cordially invites our prayerful support and physical presence at Zion's 4 Adams St., Ext. location. The guest preacher for the morning worship service is Rev. Dr. Theodore "Teddy" Hickman-Maynard, Assistant Professor of Black Church Studies and Acting Associate Dean Community Life and Lifelong Learning at Boston University School of Theology.

Their celebration will conclude with a Zion Family, Friends and Community Barbecue after worship service which we are invited to join.



**GOD WILLING
AND THE PEOPLE CONSENTING**

The Right Reverend Alan M. Gates
Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts

will ordain

**Sonia Hyacinth Hodge
Gregory Johnston
Bernie Jones
Jennifer McCracken
Helen K. McKinney
Marilyn Ayres McMillan
Ruthann Savage-King
Tamra Tucker
Jennifer M. Vath**

to the Sacred Order of Deacons

on Saturday, 2 June 2018
at half past ten o'clock in the morning.
St. Paul's Cathedral ❖ Boston, Massachusetts

YOUR PRAYERS AND PRESENCE ARE REQUESTED
Clergy: Red Stoles Reception Following

UPCOMING ADVENTURES FOR SPIRITUAL TRAVELING & LEARNING

"ENCOUNTERS IN THE HOLY LAND"

Join Bishop Gayle E. Harris and the Rev. Manny Faria of St. Peter's Church in Beverly for "Encounters in the Holy Land," a mission pilgrimage in Israel and Palestine, Sept. 28-Oct. 10. The mission pilgrimage will combine visits to holy sites, in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Jordan Valley, Nazareth, Galilee, Nablus and Ramallah, with opportunities to learn about active mission in the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem through its school, health care and peacemaking ministries.

The pilgrimage, which Harris leads annually, is an opportunity for anyone who is interested in experiencing the land of the birth of the Christian faith; who is willing to listen and learn from sisters and brothers in God who live their faith in a different culture and context; and who want to engage in the mission of God beyond their doorstep.

The deadline for registering is June 20. The group will meet three times before the trip for orientation and community building. Estimated cost is \$4,100 per person (double occupancy), with all payments due by July 15. Inquiries about joining the mission pilgrimage are welcome. More information is available by contacting Harris's office at 617-482-4826, ext. 445 or vscotland@diomass.org.

BCH OPEN GUEST WEEKEND JULY 27-29

For the first time since opening in 2003, the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center is offering an Open Guest Weekend, Friday-Sunday, July 27-29. The all-inclusive two-night package is open to the public and designed for families, couples and individuals. Optional group activities will be scheduled throughout the weekend; guests may spend their time however they choose. Find more information at www.bchcenter.org.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CAMP WEEK JULY 22-27

Rising 9th and 10th graders are invited to join this Sunday-Friday, July 22-27 opportunity to discover leadership skills and explore with peers what faith in action in the world means in their lives. Find registration online here.

PRE-WEEKEND PRAYER REFRESHMENT AT ST. ANDREW'S, MARBLEHEAD:

[St. Andrew's Church in Marblehead](#) is introducing a Friday evening prayer service, starting May 25 at 7 p.m. All are welcome. "This service has been developed in response to requests," the Rev. Clyde Elledge, Rector, said in a news release from the parish. "It will offer each person an opportunity to reflect on the previous week, connect with God through prayer and music, and embark on the weekend refreshed and with a clear mind and heart."

The service will feature prayers, readings and time for reflection, and will last approximately 40 minutes. The next prayer service will be on **Friday, June 29**. After a hiatus in July and August, the service is scheduled to resume the last Friday in September.

St. Stephen's Events

June 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 8:15 am Community Food Pantry, Lynn 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Sonia Hodge Ordination to the Diaconate 11:00 am The 3rd Annual Youth Pride Event 2:00 pm Eneza Injili Youth Choir Practice
3 Second Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist - no music 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English Patrick LaFortune preaching 11:00 am Holy Eucharist - Kiswahili 11:45 am Christian Formation for Our Youth Meeting	4 8:00 pm AA	5 6:00 pm Spring North Shore Deanery Assembly 6:30 pm Knitter's Group 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 1:00 pm Tea & Talk 7:00 pm ECCO Community Meeting	8 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS	9 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 2:00 pm Eneza Injili Youth Choir Practice
10 Third Sunday after Pentecost Scholarship Sunday & Last Day of Sunday School 8:00 am Holy Eucharist - no music 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Holy Eucharist - Kiswahili 2:30 pm Active Bystander Training	11 8:00 pm AA	12 5:30 pm Episcopal City Mission Celebration 6:30 pm Knitter's Group 7:00 pm NA	13 6:30 pm Bible Study	14 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 1:00 pm Tea & Talk	15 3:00 pm Food Pantry	16 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 2:00 pm Eneza Injili Youth Choir Practice
17 Fourth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist - no music 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Holy Eucharist - Kiswahili 11:45 am Vestry Meeting	18 8:00 pm AA	19 2:30 pm Communion at the Towers 6:30 pm Knitter's Group 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm Stewardship Ministry Team	20 6:30 pm Bible Study	21 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 1:00 pm Tea & Talk 7:00 pm Beloved Community Team	22 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS	23 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 2:00 pm Eneza Injili Youth Choir Practice
24 Fifth Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist - no music 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Holy Eucharist - Kiswahili (TBD) Eneza Injili Chorus in the New England Anglican Music Festival	25 8:00 pm AA	26 6:30 pm Knitter's Group 7:00 pm NA	27 6:30 pm Bible Study	28 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 1:00 pm Tea & Talk	29 3:00 pm Food Pantry	30 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 2:00 pm Eneza Injili Youth Choir Practice