



74 South Common St., Lynn, MA 01902 T: (781)599-4220 ♦ F: (781)586-0156 ♦ www.StStephensLynn.org

June, 2019

A WORD FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

I was recently given a commemorative plate made for St. Stephen's 125th anniversary in 1969. What struck me was the short paragraph written on the back of the plate.

For 125 years, St. Stephen's Memorial Church has stood as a symbol of the gospel and as a beacon of concern for the people of greater Lynn. The present building was the gift of Enoch Redington Mudge in memory of his son, Lt. Col. Charles Redington Mudge, who was killed in the battle at Gettysburg in 1863. The neighborhood around the church has changed from decade to decade, but St. Stephen's has always been and will continue to be an abiding source of strength to those who need assurance of God's grace, and a haven of Christian love for all men.

Besides possibly adding "and women" to the last sentence, this could have been written this year to summarize the core values of St. Stephen's Church. I find this remarkable because it is sometimes assumed that the social justice work of St Stephen's is somehow something new.

How we reach out to our neighbors has changed but our desire to serve has been on going. The work of the Food Pantry, Youth Outreach, and Children's programs including KIC Summer Camp and After School, Summer Learning, and Christmas Present Project for Kids are core to our responding to the love we have found in Jesus. This love is also reflected in our desired to help change the world around us. It is important that the Youth Pride Day celebration is on our front lawn for everyone to see. The work of the Beloved Community Team addressing white supremacy and racial bias comes from being followers of Jesus. Our support of ECCO fighting for the safety and right of immigrants also grows out of these core beliefs.

I also know that being "a haven of Christian love for all men (and women)" is not without costs. I am sure that some of the work St. Stephen's did in the 1960's was controversial. Yet, without knowing any details, we are the evidence that those conflicts were worked through. Our efforts today can sometimes be controversial. Our challenge is to continue to love and respect each other as we talk, pray, laugh, argue and cry about serving our neighbors. I am proud to say that I am a part of St. Stephen's as we continue to be "a symbol of the gospel and a beacon of concern for the people of greater Lynn."

Peace,

The Rev. Tom Barrington

St. Stephen's 12th Annual

BIG MONEY RAFFLE

Grand Prize \$5,000

Cash Prizes: \$1,000, \$750, \$500, \$250

Winners Drawn at the **Big Money Bash**

Sunday, June 30, 2019, 4:00–8:00 pm

at St. Stephen's, 74 South Common Street, Lynn

Donation: \$100.00

Buy part of a ticket – Up to 10 shares on one ticket

You do not have to be present to win – Ticket must be returned to be eligible

All Proceeds benefit St. Stephen's Memorial Episcopal Church

Serving the Community for over 150 years

Free Kids' Summer Camp / After School Program ♦ Food Pantry

Essex County Community Organization ♦ "Be You" Youth Pride

OASIS Youth Group ♦ Community Toy Drive

For more info call: 781-599-4220

visit: www.ststephenslynn.org



JUNE IS A MONTH OF SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS AT ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

Sunday, June 1st - **Ascension Sunday** – Jesus's Ascension to the Father

Sunday June 9th – **Pentecost** a joint service with our Kenyan congregation. Join us for a Pot Luck lunch in Lawrence Hall after the service.

Sunday, June 16th – **Graduation and Scholarship Sunday**. We will be announcing the St. Stephen's Scholarship's and celebration with all of our graduates.

Sunday, June 23rd – **Honoring Jason Cruz** for his 23 years as Youth Outreach Minister at St. Stephen's

Sunday, June 30th – The **BIG Money Raffle Celebration** and party at 4 PM in the Dining Room

HONORING JASON CRUZ FOR HIS 23 YEARS AS YOUTH OUTREACH MINISTER

June 30, 1996 St. Stephen's started a new Youth Ministry Program in conjunction with Raw Arts Works called C.L.Y.D.E. (Christian Living Youth Doing Everything). It was the official beginning of Jason Cruz's work with the youth of St. Stephen's as well as St. Stephen's opening its doors to the youth of Lynn. In November of 1996 they opened "Da Lounge" in Lawrence Hall with a set of colorful painted panels to define the space. Since then Jason's creativity and passionate advocacy for young people has blessed our church. He has supported countless teens as well as trained many adult leaders. Jason will be stepping down from this ministry this month and we want to recognize, celebrate, and thank him for his incredible work.

On Sunday, June 23, 2019, at the 10 AM service we will be honoring Jason's faithful ministry. We are inviting all those who have been touched by his work to join us. If you would like to help plan the festivities, please contact Heather Collis-Puro at (treasurer@st.stephenslynn.org) and Bonnie Bishop at bishopbw@gmail.com who are heading up the celebration.

STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

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. At time, we have ONE LEFT. Those who 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 BELOVED COMMUNITY TEAM. In May we had a successful workshop. We greatly appreciate everyone who came. We will continue to read and discuss Robin DeAngelo's provocative new book "White Fragility: Why is it so hard for White people to talk about race?" It has challenged us all but we are determined to fully engage with her ideas and incorporate them into our lives. We meet the second week of every month at 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's. You need no preparation to join us. All are welcome no matter where you are on your journey.

THE SEARCH COMMITTEE Met on every week in May doing a line by line, word by word edit based on the suggestions made by the congregation and the Vestry. As a result we are very close to finishing the Final Draft. The Final Draft will be sent to the Vestry in June for them to review, comment and vote. Assuming all goes well we will send the finished Profile to the diocese for approval. We will be sending the Community Portfolio with it. Once the diocese approves the document it will be posted on St. Stephen's website for the congregation to read. Also at this time we will begin receiving applications for a new rector. Thank you for your patience and prayers. We appreciate them both. Your Search Committee

NURTURING THE CONGREGATION

TIFFANY WINDOW TOURS AND ORGAN RECITAL FOR ARTWEEK. On April 27, tours of our Tiffany Windows followed by an organ recital by Bruce Beecroft were held as part of Artweek Celebrations. Artweek ran from April 26-May 5 and many events were held all over the state. This was part of our 175th Anniversary year celebrations. The tours were held from 11 am until 2 pm. The organ recital followed the last tour and lasted until 3 pm. There were many parishioners there as well as other visitors who took the tours. They were excited to see the windows and hear the story of their creation and the history of the church followed by such beautiful music. Nadine Hickey gave a wonderful rendition of America the Beautiful.

Rick Cloran gave the lecture on how the glass was created and Chris Trahan and Irene Axelrod guided the people around the church with information on the church's history and our donor Enoch Redington Mudge and his family. People were amazed at this hidden gem in Lynn. Thank you Bruce for giving us the opportunity to hear you play the organ so beautifully.

GOT COFFEE CANS? One pound metal coffee cans make perfect vases or we could also use any surplus vases you may have in which we can deliver flowers to our shut-in's. If you have any, please bring them in to our office.

BUILDING COMMITTEE/ DINING ROOM. The Building Committee has been wrestling for years with the repairs needed in the dining room and dining room kitchen. Two contractors inspected the area a few years ago, and presented the committee with proposals. The costs were beyond what we could afford. The floor alone was over thirty five thousand dollars. The project was moved to the bottom of the list. Two things happened which brought the kitchen to the forefront.

One: the water hit everywhere in the building, floors, walls, and the dining room leaving a mess. After what seemed like forever the dining room repairs are complete and it is beautiful. The BMR dinner will be the first function using the new stove in the kitchen.

Two: The afterschool KIC program, in the licensing process, was told by inspection services the entire kitchen area was off limits for all KIC programs. The inspection also presented the church with many other code problems.

The kitchen had a sixty year old stove that was leaking gas, had holes in the top, burners that did not work correctly and was a definite safety hazard. The walls behind the stove were not fire proof and several other things were/are not up to 2019 code.

Isabella (Bella) Clark, who paid for and prepared parish (roast beef) dinners in that kitchen at least once a year for many years, passed away in 2015. She left the church some money from her estate designated to be used for the dining room kitchen. There was not a great deal of money but it did purchase some important items. Knowing that the stove was a safety hazard that was the first thing we looked at. The Challenge was: get rid of the old stove, fire protect the walls, get a new stove. After much research the old stove is gone, walls are protected and a new stove has been moved in.

Unfortunately there is not much money left but of course there are other things that need to be brought up to code. The important things are the counter tops on the center cabinets and the stove hood. The hood is working, filters have been replaced but it needs a fire suppression system which could mean a new expensive hood system.

If you would like to make a donation to help us continue working on “Bella’s” kitchen. Please label the check for the dining room kitchen upgrade. Your Building Committee

PASSPORT YOUTH MISSION TO ST. STEPHEN’S June 24th – 27th The Passport Youth Mission out of Birmingham, Alabama, will be visiting the North Shore on the week of June 24th. There will be about 200 high school student staying at Gordon College and will be working throughout the area. A team of about 20 will be here at St. Stephen’s. They will be scraping and painting the outside walls of the Dining Room along with a number of other jobs. They will be here Monday-Thursday from about noon – 3 PM. Please stop by to welcome and thank them. Any of our youth are invited to join them for a few hour of service to the glory of God. For more information please speak to Rev. Tom or Harry Jackson.

Sunday, June 9th is Pentecost!

Celebrate the Birthday of the Church:

- ❖ Combined worship with Kenyan Congregation
- ❖ WEAR RED!
- ❖ Birthday gifts for the church please put in the box in the Galahad Area
- ❖ Pot luck Lunch in Lawrence Hall
- ❖ Gift Idea: Cleaning Supplies, coffee hour supplies, tissue, paper towels, office paper, post it notes, shedder, scotch tape, hand sanitizer

HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Get out your noisemakers and bubbles it's
SCHOLARSHIP & GRADUATION SUNDAY
Sunday, June 16 at 10:00am

Recognition of graduations!
Bring your friends and family for a fabulous
celebration!

BARBARA HARRIS CAMP (BCH) IS FILLING FAST AND REGISTRATION CLOSES SOON! The Barbara C. Harris(BCH) Camp in Greenfield, N.H., aims to be a place where all campers feel accepted and are able to develop authentic friendships, learn important life lessons and gain new perspectives as they live and play in a community centered on Christian values. The BCH offers five sessions, each six days and five nights, for 4th-12th graders. Financial assistance and summer staff positions are available. Visit www.bchcenter.org/bchcamp for information on sessions, themes, activities and pricing. Questions may be directed to the camp registrar, Abby at abby@bchcenter.org or 603.547.3400. Scholarships are available. We are committed that no child will miss going to BCH Camp because of finances. Speak with Rev. Tom Barrington at tbarrington@ststephenslynn.org about financial information.

ALL ARE WELCOME!
"BE YOU" LGBTQ YOUTH GROUP

LYNN HEIMAN SOCIETY COMMISSION
State Representative Brendan Crighton
State Representative Lori Ehrlich
THE HAVEN PROJECT
EQUIP & EMPOWER
nAGLY
North Shore Alliance of LGBTQ Youth
HBGC
LEARN TO COPE

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK – facebook.com/BeYouLynn www.ststephenslynn.org

BE YOU GETTING READY FOR LYNN YOUTH PRIDE ON JUNE 8. On Saturday, June 8th from 11-3 at St. Stephen's Church (74 S. Common Street) in Lynn. Hosted by the BE YOU LGBTQ+ Youth Group, this event is a celebration of the LGBTQ+ community in Lynn and beyond. The event will include food, games, a community art project, a DJ and musical and poetry

performances. The event is free and welcomes all LGBTQ+ youth as well as allies. FOR INFORMATION: Jason Cruz jflows@gmail.com.

OASIS MEETS FRIDAYS JUNE 14 and 28 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 28 we will celebrate the end of the school year with pizza, games and dessert!

WORK AT KIC THIS SUMMMER. Applications for KIC mentors are out! Applicants must currently be in 10th grade or above. Successful mentors are usually responsible, caring, energetic youth who are interested in working with children. Applications are still available in the office and Galahad areas. Both new and returning prospective mentors should fill out an application and complete an interview. While KIC likes to hire from the St. Stephen's family, KIC hiring is competitive so teens are encouraged to provide thoughtful responses and to return application forms on time! Questions? Contact Shannon Morrissey, KIC Director, at Smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org

KIC CAMP IS COMING. Registration forms for KIC Summer day camp will be available in the office and Galahad area! Any child who is between the ages of 6-12 years old is eligible for camp, and spots are available on a first come, first served basis. KIC will run from July 8 – August 2, Monday-Friday, from 8:30 to 2:00. Campers can look forward to days filled with art, music, games, field trips, and more!

VOLUNTEER WEEK AT KIC. KIC Summer Camp Volunteers are needed again this year. Camp serves 120 local children from 1st to 6th grade starting July 8 and runs for 4 weeks. We are looking for people who are willing to spend 1- 4 mornings a week, 9—12:15. Volunteers read with or to children, play board games with them, and supply snacks for 100 kids each day. This is a really wonderful ministry of our church and we hope you will find it in your heart to help us out. We are counting on parishioners from St. Stephen's to come during the week of July 8. If you want to be a part of this 'village', please contact Shannon Morrissey at smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org June 21st.

SUMMER LEARNING AT ST. STEPHEN'S HEADS INTO YEAR 5. Summer Learning is getting ready for another great summer. A few slots still remain for children in Grades kindergarten, 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 8th-August 1st Monday through Thursday each week from 2:30-5:30pm. Volunteer opportunities are available. Speak with Micheal Brown if you are interested.

UPCOMING ADVENTURES FOR SPIRITUAL TRAVELING & LEARNING

BCH OPEN GUEST WEEKEND JULY 12-14

Since opening in 2003, the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center is offering an Open Guest Weekend, Friday-Sunday, July 12-14. 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.

JOIN "ENCOUNTERS IN THE HOLY LAND" MISSION PILGRIMAGE: Join Bishop Gayle E. Harris and the Rev. Debbie Phillips for "Encounters in the Holy Land," a mission pilgrimage in Israel and Palestine, Oct. 1-15, 2019. The mission pilgrimage will combine visits to holy sites in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea, Nazareth, Galilee, Nablus and Ramallah with opportunities to learn about active mission in the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem through its school, healthcare and peacemaking ministries. **The registration deadline is May 15.** 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. For more information, contact David Ames (617-482-4826, ext. 445 or dames@diomass.org).

CELEBRATE WITH "DISRUPTING HOPE" AT EPISCOPAL CITY MISSION ANNUAL EVENT: Join Episcopal City Mission on Tuesday, June 11, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at Boston University George Sherman Union at 775 Commonwealth Avenue in Boston for its annual celebration: an evening focused on social action, fellowship and, this year's theme, disrupting hope: will focus on the importance of finding hope in the now, through our actions in a place rather than focusing on a lofty intangible hope that will manifest in the future.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Miguel A. de la Torre, is professor of Social Ethics and Latinx Studies at Iliff School of Theology, scholar-activist, author, and ordained Baptist minister. His books include Embracing Hopelessness and The U.S. Immigration Crisis: Towards and Ethics of Place.

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 www.episcopalcitymission.org for more information.

ECCO IMMIGRANT ADVOCACY WORK

ECCO has been working with and advocating for asylum seekers who have come to this country fleeing violence and death in their home countries. Below is a letter from one such asylee. I was planning to joining with other area clergy and lay people to accompany her to her hearing on June 5th at ICE in Burlington and praying that she will be allowed to stay in our country. However, because of the work of ECCO, Bianca's asylum case has been reopened for appeal which saves her from immediate deportation. I am sharing the letter below as it gives witness to the people we are supporting.

Rev. Tom

Dear Rev. Tom and the people of St. Stephen's,

I am writing to share my story, to tell you why your solidarity and support has meant so much to me. And I am writing to tell you how you have already made a difference in my life and the lives of many other immigrants like me.

My Story

I was born in Honduras and suffered from polio at a young age, which left me paralyzed in one leg. Because of the stigma of this disability, my family rejected me and left me in an orphanage. I was taunted and excluded for my disability even as an adult. Four years ago, a man assaulted me because he knew I couldn't fight back. He told me he was coming back to kill me.

My Decision to Flee

I was faced with the decision of whether or not to leave. Leaving meant risking a serious and dangerous journey through Mexico on foot, when it is hard for me to walk long hours and days. But to stay meant to risk being killed. My fear was greater than my limitations, and so I decided to leave and made the treacherous journey to this country to seek asylum.

You Stood with Me and Gave Me Courage

Even though my life is clearly in jeopardy if I return, and even though the criteria for asylum is credible fear of violence in one's home country, the US government has denied my applications and appeals for asylum. Yet, when I had all but given up, ECCO clergy and leaders stood with me as I reported to ICE, and because of your solidarity, I was granted a stay of deportation for three months. Your support gave me the courage to fight harder and tell my story to Congressman Moulton and to the offices of Senator Warren and Markey, to let them know that ICE funding is being used to hurt so many people like me, who are here only because we fear for our lives.

I have just learned that my my asylum case has been reopened and I understand I cannot be deported while it is being appealed. However, I still must report to ICE again on June 5th at 9am. I am grateful that I some of my friends from ECCO will be with me.

Because of your support and solidarity, I believe that change is possible I don't know what will happen to me. I don't know if I will be able to stay. I don't know if I will survive if I am forced to return. But I do know that there are people in the world who care enough to risk to make things better, and that our actions for justice can make an impact.

In gratitude and solidarity!

God bless all,

Blanca Martinez

ECCO ANNUAL BOAT CRUISE Sunday, June 23rd, 7-9:30 PM. Arrive by 6:45 PM to get on the boat! Where to meet: 63 Rodgers St., Gloucester, MA. You are invited to ECCO's annual Boat Cruise Fundraiser, the best social justice dance party of the summer! Join us for an evening of schmoozing, DJ and dancing, and cash bar/light refreshments with ECCO's vibrant and diverse community. Tickets are \$50 each, \$25 for children. You can sign up online at <https://eccoboatcruise2019.eventbrite.com>, and pay through Eventbrite or by checking the "Pay by check" option sending a check payable to ECCO, at 74 South Common Street, Lynn, MA 01901. You can also opt to pay for scholarship tickets for \$50 each for who can't afford them, paying online or by check.

If you need a scholarship ticket for a reduced price, please consult with Rabbi Margie at mklein@eccoaction.org. If you are approved for a scholarship ticket, please click that option, and then either click the donation button to pay online whatever you can pay, or send that amount to ECCO at the address above.

POEM FOR THE MONTH

Easter Wings

*Lord, who createdst man in wealth and store,
Though foolishly he lost the same,
Decaying more and more,
Till he became
Most poore:
With thee
O let me rise
As larks, harmoniously,
And sing this day thy victories:
Then shall the fall further the flight in me.*

*My tender age in sorrow did beginne
And still with sicknesses and shame.
Thou didst so punish sinne,
That I became
Most Thinne.
With thee
Let me combine,
And feel thy victorie:
For, if imp my wing on thine,
Affliction shall advance the flight on me.*

By: George Herbert

If anyone would like to offer a Poem for the Month for future newsletter please send it to ststephens@ststephenslynn.org or speak to Rev. Tom.

St. Stephen's Events

June 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 7:00 am Mobile Market 8:30 am Diocesan Parish Historian Society Annual Meeting 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal |
| 2 Seventh Sunday of Easter Scholarship Applications Due 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation | 3 8:00 pm AA | 4 7:00 pm NA | 5 6:30 pm Bible Study | 6 10:30 am Healing Prayer & Pastoral Care Team Meeting 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers | 7 KIC reg deadline | 8 Lynn Youth Pride Day 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal 3:00 pm Baptism preparation class |
| 9 Day of Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 12:00 pm Women's Group | 10 8:00 pm AA | 11 St Barnabas the Apostle ECM Annual Celebration 6:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm NA | 12 6:30 pm Bible Study | 13 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers 7:00 pm Beloved Community Team | 14 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS | 15 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal |
| 16 Trinity Sunday Graduation Sunday Father's Day 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - graduation Sunday 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan | 17 8:00 pm AA | 18 2:30 pm Communion at the Towers 6:00 pm North Shore Deanery Assembly 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm Stewardship Ministry Team | 19 6:30 pm Bible Study | 20 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers | 21 3:00 pm Food Pantry | 22 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal |
| 23 Second Sunday After Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 11:30 am Vestry Meeting 7:00 pm ECCO Boat Cruise | 24 Nativity of St John the Baptist Passport Mission Youth Group 8:00 pm AA | 25 7:00 pm NA | 26 6:30 pm Bible Study | 27 12:00 pm Eucharist & Healing Prayers | 28 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm OASIS | 29 St Peter and St Paul, Apostles 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal |
| 30 Third Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 10:00 am Holy Eucharist - English 11:00 am Worship - Kenyan Congregation 4:00 pm Big Money Raffle | | | | | | |