



November 2021 NEWSLETTER

A Message from Reverend Greg

The world asks: "What does a person own?" God asks, "How does a person use what he or she has been given?" (Unknown)

My Personal Journey to Understanding Stewardship

Stewardship is a personal journey and a way of life that we commit to on the day of our baptism. We do not always understand it completely, but much like our spiritual journey, we come to slowly discover it through prayer. I share with you my own spiritual journey to understanding stewardship.

When the pandemic began, Doug and I contacted our close friends in Costa Rica to make sure they were well. Throughout this pandemic we have been "checking in" on them and discovered early on how embarrassed they were to ask for assistance. One young man said to me in Spanish, "*Pues te digo la verdad, no tenemos trabajo o plata*" (Truth be told, we don't have work or money). It was then that we decided to help our friends during this difficult time. We discovered that a small amount goes a long way and that making a commitment to help goes even further. The most important thing that we have learned during this pandemic is that stewardship is all about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity. Another lesson learned is that nothing is ours! It all belongs to the One who gave it to us, so that we might share with others.

This has not always been an easy journey for me as a clergyman. As a Roman Catholic priest, I progressed from having everything given to me, to learning to share all that has been given to me. As a young clergyman, stewardship and the act of tithing were not popular subjects in seminary. Even today, I am still growing into my sense of stewardship, just as I am growing into my spiritual journey. The act of giving is as central to the act of daily prayer. Without prayer, we remain empty. Without an intentional practice of stewardship, we remain empty. When we give ourselves to God and to the practice of faithful stewardship, we come to realize how blessed and full we are.

Giving is a discipline that incorporates us into the life of Jesus. He is our example! Remember how He gathered his disciples together for a final meal. "On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had

given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said “Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you.” Then he took the cup, and again he gave thanks to God. When Jesus finished his prayer of thanksgiving, he gave the cup to the disciples and he said to them: “This is my blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

As we begin this season of Stewardship, I ask that you sit in prayer and think about your commitment and giving to St. Stephen’s for next year. Your decision to commit, should not only include treasure; it should include time and talent as well. I am asking all of us to invest in that in which we believe in. Stewardship is simply not about making ends meet; it is returning to God all that God has given to us so that we might use it for kingdom work.

I give to St. Stephen’s because I believe in what I invest in. My prayer is that you too, will do the same. May the One who gave us everything, lead you in your own journey to understanding faithful stewardship.

Giving Expresses Love and Gratitude for our St. Stephen’s Community

We give to support St. Stephen’s work to be the hands and feet of Christ, both to each other and to the people of Lynn. Because giving is an act of commitment to this work and to our community, I am asking each of you to join me for our ***Stewardship Sunday 10:00 am service, November 7th, in person or online.*** Together, we will make our 2022 pledge by privately filling out a pledge card (provided at church) during the service. If you are not able to attend in person next Sunday, a pledge card will be mailed to you.

After the 10:00 Service, we will have a special coffee hour to celebrate the mission and community of St. Stephen’s Memorial Episcopal Church.



REMEMBER TO SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY, NOV. 6TH!

PUMPKIN PAINTING ON THE COMMON!



Thank you to Pam Alleyne, Mother Charlene, Harry Jackson, Tina Robilard, Ruthanne Switzer, Chris Trahan, and Rev. Greg, for trying out a new way to show that St. Stephen's is open and welcoming! Tina and Chris have noticed that when the doors of the church are open on Saturday when they are cleaning and setting up, people walking along the Common like to stop in. This group decided to do something fun, for passerby, children and adults, and so set up for Pumpkin Painting. They hope to do it again next year, with more planning and advance notice!

BIBLE STUDY: Acts of the Apostles

Join Us for Virtual Bible Study each Wednesday from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. We continue to read the Acts of the Apostles. To join the discussion, go to:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91045711473>

Meeting ID: 910 4571 1473

KIDS IN COMMUNITY MUSIC & ART AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM OPENS!

Kids in Community's after-school program finally opened its doors on November 1 to welcome 16 children! KIC's Program Director, Shannon Morrissey, has hired new staff and is looking to hire more. We are excited that Brandon Mayes, our drumming instructor extraordinaire, will be back! There is still room for children, grades 1 through 6, who would like to attend, Monday through Thursday. The kids will get snacks, supervised homework and reading time, creative writing, drumming and music lessons, crafts, games, and more. KIC is also looking for volunteers who have skills in the arts to share on a weekly or one time basis, and/or to offer homework help. Please contact Shannon at smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org or 781-599-4220 ext 4 to enroll a child or to offer your gifts of time and talent to our children.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

St. Stephen's Food Pantry has been selected as the beneficiary of the @StopandShop Bloomin' 4 Good Program!



Each time the \$10.99 **Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker** is purchased at the Stop & Shop at 35 Washington St., Lynn during the month of November 2021, we will receive a \$1 donation. \$1 Donation = 10+ Meals Donated! It's as simple as that.

Need for our Food Pantry continues to be high. After briefly dipping to 150 clients a week (still somewhat higher than pre-pandemic levels) the Pantry has served 200 and 270 people in the past two weeks! To meet the demand, we will be increasing our food deliveries from once a month for 11,000 pounds to twice a month for a total of 18,000 pounds. This will double our trucking costs to \$400/month. Please consider a donation to the food pantry to help with this expense.

We extend our thanks to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn which supports the Food Pantry financially and by providing a great unloading crew on food delivery days! If you would like to join the fun, and it is fun!....please contact Pam Poppe, who organizes our volunteers, at pamelapoppe61@gmail.com, or text her at 781 913 5190.

Thanksgiving is coming! We don't get many of the "trimmings" from the Food Bank – please donate stuffing, canned yams and pumpkin and cranberry sauce. Help make someone else's holidays a little brighter.

THE WOMEN'S GROUP

The Women's Group is an opportunity for fellowship for women from St. Stephen's and St. Andrew's. The Woman's Group will meet at St. Andrew's, Marblehead on Sunday, November 14 from 12:30-2 PM. Bring a lunch; coffee and tea provided.

BELOVED COMMUNITY TEAM

SOMOS UNA COMUNIDAD AMADA

AMAMOS A DIOS

AMAMOS SU IMAGEN EN NUESTRO PRÓJIMO
EN NUESTRO PROPIO SER Y EN LA CREACIÓN

WE ARE A BELOVED COMMUNITY

WE LOVE GOD

WE LOVE GOD'S IMAGE IN OUR NEIGHBOR
IN OUR OWN BEING AND IN CREATION

The Beloved Community Team of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church of Lynn and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Marblehead sponsored a presentation by The Reverend Deacon Ema Rosero-Nordalm on Saturday, October 23rd at St. Stephen's. Rev. Ema's presentation invited listeners to hear how Latino communities explore the truth about their history under Spain and the historic harms that still permeate Latino society and to embark on an individual and communal journey of healing as Beloved Communities. Rev. Ema serves the Diocese as a Title IV Intake Officer, an Advocate member of the



diocesan Mission Initiatives Subcommittee for Supported Congregations and a member of the Racial Justice Commission Subcommittee team working on Formation. Born in Tumaco, Colombia, she retired from Boston University where for 22 years she coordinated and taught Spanish courses to undergraduate students and trained graduate students in second language methodologies and practice. She has dedicated her life and the flame of her vocation as an educator to create programs, facilitate workshops, and offer spiritual retreats and spiritual accompaniment to Latino communities.

JOIN US IN CHURCH EVERY SUNDAY FOR WORSHIP at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

To Watch the 10AM Service From Home: Tune in to the **live service weekly at 10:00 am** right here on our website, on the [St. Stephen's YouTube Channel](#), or via the YouTube App on your phone, tablet, or Smart TV. ([Subscribe to the St. Stephen's YouTube Channel](#) (it's free!) to easily find this broadcast on your YouTube App on any device.)

To Watch From Home With Others: [You can join the Zoom Meeting using this link](#) and using the passcode previously provided to all congregants. You'll be able to see other congregants in the Zoom meeting while watching. Additionally, join a few minutes before 10:00 am or stay after the service ends to chat live with other congregants. If you need help with the password, or with using Zoom or YouTube, please email ststephens@ststephenslynn.org or call the office.

10/29/21, 12:35 PM		St. Stephens Episcopal Church - Calendar - November 2021					
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
31 All Saints Sunday 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist	Nov 1 All Saints Don't forget to buy a raffle ca	2 All Souls/Dia de los Muertos 6pm N/A	3 11am Music Ministry mtg 6:30pm Bible Study	4 Thanksgiving Day	5 Diocesan Convention - Virtual 2pm Food Pantry	6	
7 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist	8	9 12:30pm Dean. clergy mtg 2:30pm Service - Tower's 6pm N/A	10 11am Music Ministry mtg 6:30pm Bible Study	11 7pm BCT	12	13	
14 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist 11:45am Warden's Mtg 12:30pm Women's Group	15 PIC away until 11/22	16 6pm N/A	17 11am Music Ministry mtg 6:30pm Bible Study	18	19 2pm Food Pantry	20	
21 Harvest Sunday 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist	22	23 6pm N/A	24 11am Music Ministry mtg 6:30pm NO Bible Study 7pm Service of Thanks - TB	25 Thanksgiving Day	26 Native American Heritage Da	27	
28 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist 12pm Vestry Mtg.	29 Don't Forget to buy a raffle ca	30 6pm N/A 6pm NS Deaneary mtg	Dec 1 11am Music Ministry mtg 6:30pm Bible Study	2	3	4	

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/month/2021/11/?pli=1>