



October 2021 NEWSLETTER

A Message from Reverend Greg

This month signals the full approach of Fall! It is coming and we cannot do anything about it. For some, it is warmly welcomed after a hot Summer; for others, it is not. Be that as it may, it is upon us.

This process reminds me of the great day of Pentecost. Those gathered in the Upper Room could do nothing to stop the Holy Spirit from landing upon them. Tongues of fire held them in a firm hold and they marveled at the many languages being spoken, yet, they could all understand one another.

In many ways, St. Stephen's is very much like that: we are all diverse in our own ways, yet we belong to one family of faith. We gather each Sunday to amass the prayers of each of us so that as one community, we can lay them before the throne of God.

During the month of October, you will hear me speak of stewardship and the need for each of us who claims St. Stephen's as our spiritual home, to give of our time, talent and treasure. When we all do this as one family of faith, we recognize and celebrate each other. This becomes part of our spiritual practice. Stewardship is a spiritual practice executed out of deep and unshakable gratitude for all that God gives us.

John Wesley was an English clergyman, theologian, and evangelist, who was a leader of a revival movement within the Church of England known as Methodism. It is believed that Wesley once said this: "Do all the good you can, in all the ways you can, to all the souls you can, in every place you can, at all the times you can, with all the zeal you can, as long as ever you can." This is truly a spiritual practice, and it is clearly stewardship.

God's love for us, and God's care for us is much like Fall. We cannot stop it from happening. It falls upon us like leaves falling on our heads! We cannot refute it: God loves us and cares for each of us. What a tremendous gift that is, and when someone gives us a gift, the custom is to say, "Thank you." Our practice of stewardship is our way of saying, "Thank you" to God. It is also our way of acknowledging that even if we tried to stop God from showering us with loving care, we would not succeed.

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

No need to register ahead of time, or sign in, but please wear your mask!

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. After setting your reminder, simply open the YouTube App on your Smart TV, tablet, or phone and log in with the same Google/YouTube account to see the scheduled broadcast.

To Watch 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.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS A CALL FROM THE CHURCH?

If you know someone who's feeling the loss of community and connection with St. Stephen's, please contact the office to let Rev. Greg know.

BIBLE STUDY: Acts of the Apostles



Join Us for Virtual Bible Study each Wednesday from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. We will be reading 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

HELP SPREAD THE WORD! KIC IS HIRING! Our After-School Music and Art Program has the funds to open, but needs to hire more Mentors and Group Leaders. Please spread the word to young adults 18 or older who like working with children. No degree or experience necessary. Mentors earn \$15/hour and Group Leaders earn \$17/hour. If you know anyone who might be interested, you or they can contact Shannon Morrissey, KIC's Program Director, at smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org or 781-599-4220, ext. 4.

Kids in Community
Music & Art Program

**JOIN
OUR
TEAM**

'Cuz we're hiring!

Group Leader- Mentors- Art/Music Specialists

**Smorrissey@ststephenslynn.org/
781-771-6163**

**ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH- LYNN, MA**

POSTER
POSTER MAKER

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

The Holidays will be here before you know it! The St. Stephen's Food Pantry isn't able to get many of the "trimmings" from the Food Banks that supply us. We need your help with donations of stuffing and cranberry sauce. Help make someone else's holidays a little brighter.

Great 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.

As always, we especially need help for one hour, once a month, when we get our food delivery from the Greater Boston Food Bank and unload 9,000 pounds of food (20 to 40-pound boxes) into our storage areas. The food is delivered on the second Friday of each month at 11:15 am. We need help from 11:30 to 12:30 on October 8, November 12 and December 10. Please contact Pam Poppe at pamelapoppe61@gmail.com or 781-913-5190, if you can take one or more of these days, or if you have a child or grandchild who can help.

THE WOMEN'S GROUP

The Women's Group is an opportunity for fellowship for women from St. Stephen's and St. Andrew's. We meet on the second Sunday of the month, from 12:30 to 2 PM. To get the Zoom invitation to join the meeting, please contact St. Stephen's office.

BELOVED COMMUNITY TEAM

The Beloved Community Team is a multiracial group of men and women from St. Stephen's and from St. Andrew's in Marblehead learning from each other and supporting each other to personally unlearn racism and to work to change racist policies and structures. We

meet once a month, on the 2nd Thursday of the month, from 7-9 PM. If you'd like to get on the email list for BCT, please email Pam Poppe at pamelapoppe61@gmail.com

Our Tiffany Windows as part of the Essex Heritage Trails and Sails Events




On Saturday, September 25 from 10 am to 2 pm we were able to open the church once again to be part of the events of Essex Heritage Trails and Sails days. We have been doing this for 8 years. Sixty people from Lynn, the North Shore and one from New Hampshire listened to a presentation by Rick Cloran on our Tiffany windows. He provided exquisite prints of closeups of sections of the windows to go along with his talk. This year because of the Covid issues, people sat in the church to hear the presentation so they could be spaced out. This turned out to be very beneficial since they could look at the windows as he talked. They were then allowed to inspect the prints.

Chris Trahan then gave a talk on the building and its history telling many of his interesting stories. Many wonderful comments were received on how thorough and enjoyable the presentations were. Some people had seen them before and returned for a second time. Several people said they never knew there was such a place in Lynn and may come to a service some time.

Donations were received, cards were purchased as well a one of our momentos. It was a happy occasion for all involved. Marilyn Cloran and Sally Gosselin greeted the people as they came in and guided them into the church. We are thankful for another year of sharing the beauty of our church with others.

Marilyn Cloran

St. Stephen's Memorial Episcopal Church
CALENDAR RAFFLE - FEBRUARY 2022

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

While we are not able to have our wonderful Harvest Fair in November, we are excited to announce that we are having a “CALENDAR RAFFLE” during the month of February 2022. With the Calendar Raffle, you will still have the opportunity to win some of the wonderful items you have won in the past and more! Each day in February a ticket will be drawn to win the prize of the day listed on the Calendar. Calendars may be purchased between **October 31, 2021 through January 31, 2022.**

Only a couple of weeks into the planning and prizes for 27 of 28 days of the calendar have been donated! Some of the prizes already in hand are: \$100 gift card for dinner at The Ledger Restaurant in Salem, MA, \$100 Amazon gift card, Salem Waterfront Hotel overnight stay, \$100 in lottery tickets and cash prizes!

The next step, key to the raffle’s success, will be selling calendars! More details to follow in the coming weeks as the calendars will go on sale October 31st

Thank you to the Calendar Raffle chairs, Sandy Wittrup and Marilyn Cloran! If you’d like to help, reach out to either one of them at church or contact them at:
 Sandy Wittrup at sjwittrup@gmail.com; 617-312-6069 or
 Marilyn Cloran at macloran@comcast.net; 781-592-6586



El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

Día de los Muertos is a festival celebrated in Mexico, parts of Central and South America, and increasingly throughout the United States.

- ❖ Day of the Dead is not a sad or scary occasion, but a spirited holiday when people remember and honor family members who have died. All of this is part of the philosophy that death is not something to be feared, but a natural part of life.
- ❖ People celebrate in their homes, creating altars (called *ofrendas* in Spanish) that display portraits, favorite foods, and special possessions of their loved ones.
- ❖ Altars are also decorated with candles and marigolds—the light of the candle and scent of the flowers (called *cempasuchitl*) are said to attract the souls of the deceased and draw them back for a short time to take part in the pleasures they once enjoyed in life.

- ❖ Families also visit the graves of their loved ones, cleaning the headstones, and decorating with flowers, and bringing food and music
- ❖ The roots of Day of the Dead are pre-Colombian, and many of the symbols and practices are derived from the indigenous groups of Meso America (Maya and Aztec).
- ❖ Images of skeletons dancing or doing other comical things are common.

How to celebrate *Día de los Muertos* at St. Stephen's:

1. Bring pictures, momentos, cards, etc. of your loved one (Put your name on the back of the item) on Sunday October 24, 2021; leave these with Rev. Greg or an usher.
2. Although Day of the Dead is observed on November 2nd, it is perfectly acceptable to remember our deceased loved ones for the entire month of November. **October 31 – November 28 will be our 'Month of Remembrance,'** remembering and praying for our deceased loved ones (including our beloved pets).

October 2021

3 SUN 19th Sunday after Pentecost 8 am HE 10 am HE	4 MON St. Francis (Clergy Sabbath Day)	5 TUE 7 pm NA 7 pm virtual Vestry Mtg.	6 WED 6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	7 THU	8 FRI 11:15 am Help needed in Food Pantry	9 SAT
10 20th Sun after Pentecost 8 am HE 10 am HE 12:30 Women's Group	11 Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day (Clergy Sabbath Day)	12 12 Noon Stephanie Spellers virtual Conf. 7 pm NA	13 6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	14 7 – 9 Virtual Beloved Community	15 1:00 Food Pantry	16
17 21st Sun after Pentecost 8 am HE 10 am HE 11:30 am Fundraising Mtg.	18 St. Luke (Clergy Sabbath Day)	19 2:30 pm HE @ Towers 7 pm NA	20 6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	21 12:30 pm virtual ECCO Clergy	22 1:00 Food Pantry	23 St. James

24 22nd Sun after Pentecost 8 am HE 10 am HE (Bring momentos to church)	25 (Clergy Sabbath Day)	26 6 pm virtual Executive Comm. 7 pm NA	27 6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	28 St. Simon & Jude	29	30
31 23rd Sun after Pentecost (Halloween) 8 am HE 10 am HE 12 Noon Virtual Vestry Mtg.	1 NOV All Saints Day (Clergy Sabbath Day)	2 All Souls Day/Day of the Dead 7 pm NA	3 6:30 pm Virtual Bible Study	4	5	6

PS. The calendar is a work in progress...please be patient with us.