



*St. Stephen's
Episcopal
Church*



Ministries

Booklet

2023

St. Stephen's Ministries

Where do you see yourself this year?
Where are you being called to serve?

For the Curious

Tuesday Night Bible Study

When do we meet?

Each Tuesday evening
from 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Where do we meet?

In the parish hall

Why do we meet?

Since the Bible is God's Word, we come to it to know God better and learn His will for our lives.

Who should I contact?

Chris: hopalongcjc@yahoo.com or 518-265-0250

Debby: djcdebby@gmail.com

Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always. Psalm 105:4



Wednesday Night Bible Study

Bible Study normally meets in the library Wed. evenings at 6:30, September - early June. Our current study is using the Ray Vander Laan series "That the World May Know". It is a study of the Bible using historical and cultural context as Ray leads groups through the Holy Land. Every week we watch a video episode then have a discussion about the scripture passages Ray uses and what life was like for the people of the Bible and relating it to our current culture.

Due to a family commitment, our study will begin in mid-October. If interested see Mark Hibbard or reach out by email for more details, winemark1@aol.com

Brotherhood of the Bacon

What is it?

A monthly breakfast/fellowship for the Men of St. Stephen's and their invited guests, where we enjoy a hearty breakfast (that always includes bacon). We spend time in prayer and the reading of God's matchless Word.



When is it?

Normally held the 2nd Saturday of the month, from 9AM until 10:30 AM.

Where do we meet?

St. Stephen's Parish Hall

Who do I contact if I want to come?

Contact either Matt Mahony at: mjm1570@gmail.com or Chris Cassidy at: hopalongcjc@yahoo.com.



Education for Ministry

A comprehensive program of study, prayer and theological reflection in a small group setting to help laypersons deepen their faith and strengthen or discover their call to Christian service. EfM participants read and discuss the Old Testament, New Testament, Christian history and tradition, and theology, following a syllabus and reflection method developed by the School of Theology at the University of the South and used by more than 100,000 persons since 1975. If you have a hunger for more in your spiritual life and you enjoy spirited discussion, EfM may be for you. We meet weekly October through June. For more information and to register contact the mentor, Paula-Christy Heighton, paulacheighton@gmail.com or call 518-221-9472

Adult Christian Education

Adult Christian Education at St. Stephen's is a vital part of our Sunday morning experience where everyone from teenagers to senior members can learn about our rich Christian faith, after enjoying the fellowship of other members over a delicious breakfast.

Here is the schedule:

Breakfast	9:00 am or when church is over
Adult Education	9:40 am
Class is over	10:15 am

Our short teachings after breakfast are not an extra sermon! They will provide spiritual inspiration and practical ways for us to grow as disciples. We encourage you to come and enjoy one another's company, a nice breakfast, and engage in learning together in this well-loved format on Sunday mornings. For more information contact Fr. Scott.

Children's Ministry

The **Godly Play** approach helps children to explore their faith through stories, to gain religious language and to enhance their spiritual experience through wonder and play. Our Godly Play program consists of a

- Primary Class (ages 3 to 9) and
- Middle School Class (ages 10 to 14)

Both are offered during the 10:30AM service. If your child(ren) want to be involved or *you want to help*, please feel free to visit us in our classroom (the large room with the Godly Play "I Wonder" sign on the door.) For more information contact The Rev. Justine Guernsey at jmg1014@aol.com or 518-573-0253.

Youth Ministry

The Saint Stephens Youth Ministry is geared to young people in middle and high school who are curious about how to grow together in Christ. We have a goal of finding our own path in our walk with Christ with guidance from Scripture and faithful



community. We want to be able to explain our journey to ourselves and to others so that we can be the shining light on a Hill and bring others to the love and knowledge of Christ Jesus. If you would like to find out more information about our Youth Ministry please reach out to Matt Mahony mjm1570@gmail.com or 518-225-0823 or Jennie Mahony at jmahony23@gmail.com or 518-225-0823. We look forward to growing together in the Love and Light of Christ.

Ministries with our Church Family



Hospitality

It's not *just* breakfast. It's not *just* coffee hour. *It is* a warm and kind welcome for your church family and a sign of our friendliness to newcomers. We have experienced volunteers who will help “newbies” navigate hosting. Sign up is online through

SignUpGenius (link in our website) or on the paper signup in the parish hall. For more information contact the church office.

The Daughters of the King

St. Teresa of Avila Chapter

As baptized members of God's Holy Church, Daughters of the King strive to live into the vision of the Order: “Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision as Daughters of the King is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others, and to become reflections of God's love throughout the world.”

Come and learn with us.

Contact: Debby Cassidy 518-265-0279
or Wendy Lindskoog 518-459-4758



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Junior Daughters of the King

Jr. Daughters provides girls and young women the opportunity to grow in the love and knowledge of Jesus Christ while serving their church and community. They are an integral part of our Order by transitioning to a senior Daughter. If interested, please contact Jennifer King jenniferking71898@yahoo.com or 518) 598-7563.

Healing Ministry

Prayer is offered at the back of the church after the 8:00 AM service and at the altar rail after the 10:30 AM service. As prayer ministers, we seek to be God's instruments of grace as we listen, love, and pray with others. Prayers may be offered for physical healing, spiritual healing, guidance, or whatever else might be on your mind. Please know that all prayer concerns are kept confidential unless otherwise directed. For more information contact michelle.wills1115@gmail.com or at 518-768-2725



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Since its beginning in 2010, the purpose of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is to knit or crochet shawls and similar garments while praying for the eventual recipient who was going through a life-changing experience.

The finished items are blessed by the priest, usually during the midst of a Sunday morning service, and the delivered to the recipient. New members of this simple yet powerful ministry are always welcome. Please contact Barbara Krueger at bkzkrueger@gmail.com or 518-439-4001 or Margaret Denio at mgd2722@gmail.com or 518-669-2722.

Garden Committee

If you enjoy working with plants and flowers in the great outdoors, this is the ministry for you. We are a small group of volunteers who lovingly tend the flower gardens and



shrubbery around the church grounds. There is a group clean-up once a year (usually on a Saturday) during the Fall season to prepare the beds for Winter. In the Spring the beds come alive with beautiful daffodils, tulips and hyacinths. Volunteers work with us once a year at the Fall clean-up and/or choose one particular garden bed or work task to take care of throughout the growing season. We're very flexible and would like to have you join us. Please contact Wendy Lindskoog, at 518-459-4758.

Ministries to the Community

Loaves & Fishes



St. Stephen's Outreach Committee

St. Stephen's Outreach Committee is involved in a number of ministries that serve some of the

most vulnerable in our society. We strive to be the 'living letters' Jesus uses to demonstrate his love and compassion to all people. We are proud to partner with the diocesan led ministry, Loaves & Fishes, the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern New York, the Christian ministry Healing a Woman's Soul, the Capital Area Council of Churches, the Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless, Albany County Department of Youth & Family Services, and our own LOVE Bethlehem. Gail Truchard - gailtruchard@gmail.com or 518-414-2800

Missions Committee

The Missions Committee currently oversees 2 main mission outreaches. Our congregation supports St André School in Flande, Haiti through salary support for the school staff. We hold occasional fund raisers for school building construction projects.



Secondly, we support the Capital District InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, (IV), which is the local chapter of the international association. It is a student led outreach to college students at RPI and SUNY, through the guidance of a trained IV representative.

Currently, we are giving temporary assistance to a young Haitian immigrant through providing rides to appointments or church, and also donations for supermarket gift cards. If you would like to be involved, please contact the office or Fr Scott.



Love Bethlehem

Our Mission:

- Witnesses for Jesus in our local community
- Witnesses for Jesus in presence
- Witnesses for Jesus in action
- Witnesses for Jesus in love
- Partner with existing community events and programs (such as School supply drives, Adopt a Family, and Adopt a Highway)
- Show our love and appreciation for the community of which we are a part Contact- Lori Platel 518-368-5254

Liturgical Ministries



Ushers and Greeters

If you'd like to help with welcoming people to church, greeting them with a warm smile, and helping them feel comfortable at St. Stephen's, then contact Chris Cassidy at hopalongcjc@yahoo.com or 518-265-0250 to find out more. We are the first people that newcomers encounter when they enter our doors.

Lectors

Do you believe Scripture is the living word of God? Does Scripture “move” you? Do you like to share Scripture with others? If you said yes to these, then you may have a calling to “proclaim” the Word during liturgy – Old Testament, the Psalms and the New Testament. If you believe this is for you, please speak to Mark Hibbard at winemark1@aol.com

“Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?” Luke 23:32

On the Altar

At St. Stephen’s, the role of Eucharistic Minister is currently a multi-function job. In addition to administering the chalice during communion, we get to lead the procession as the crucifer. We also serve as acolytes helping to prepare for communion. As Eucharistic ministers, we are part of the action (and we have reserved seating)!

It sounds like a lot, but you watch it happen every week so you are more familiar with what to do than you think. And of course, there will be training. Come take your participation in the service to the next level. It’s an up-close-and-personal experience. Please contact Alex Shepherd at shepherd@nycap.rr.com or 518-591-0015.



Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is a quiet devotional ministry, behind the scenes but still a vital part of the Eucharistic Feast. The Altar Guild sets the Lords Table for all services that will celebrate the

Eucharist. Prayer, reverence and quiet, you alone with the Lord as you prepare His table. Please contact Elizabeth Mosier, Director at emosier22@gmail.com or 518-728-7574,

Music Ministry

Our church music ministry is blessed with the volunteer efforts of the voice choir and handbell choir. The voice choir accepts people of many ages (high school - senior citizens) and welcomes those who love to sing



God's praise from September to the beginning of June.. Handbell choir is open to many folks who have basic note reading skills...we'll take care of the rest! Handbells present music approximately every five weeks. Both choirs practice weekly and are also active participants during festival days and the like. Our focus is using our musical talents to glorify God, and our gifts of music are a presentation as we do our best to tell the saving grace of Jesus through music. Contact is Helen Hamel, organist and choir director at pianomuse@outlook.com.

Contact information

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Website: <https://ststephensdelmar.weebly.com>

Office Manager: Stephanie Mojallali

Father Scott Garno

Cel: 518-903-5367

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Deacon Justine Guernsey

Cel: 518-573-0253

Email: jguernsey@gmail.com

Wardens
Chris Cassidy
Lori Platel

Treasurer
Anne Mellet

Sexton
Josh Lengfellner

Church Musician
Helen Hamel

St. Stephen's PreK Academy
Head of School
Karen Olewnick

