

July 2019
Week One

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Oxford, North Carolina



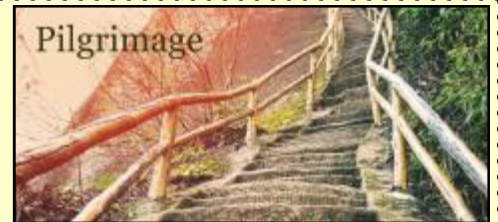
The Weekly Messenger

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"Holy Pilgrimage"
The Rev. Dr. James L. Pahl, Jr.

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Summer is upon us and there is no better time to catch our breath and rest for a while. Some will travel and others will simply stay put and find refreshment in doing nothing. Regardless of where you find yourself this summer - this July - do not forget that God is with you. Although church services continue through the summer, Sunday after Sunday, God is not confined to the walls of the Sanctuary. Yes, I encourage you to attend Sunday services when in town, but if you are unable to be present remember that you are not alone – God is ever present with you! Psalm 139:23 says, *"Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts."* Even though summer is a time of rest and refreshment, we must never forget the continual need to be awakened by God. Jesus, rested at times, but God the Father was never far from his thoughts, his purpose, and his journey; because they are One in substance and purpose. A devotional I came across said this, *"Imagine considering every moment as a potential time of communion with God. By the time your life is over, you will have spent six months at stoplights, eight months opening junk mail, a year and a half looking for lost stuff, and a whopping five years standing in various lines. Why don't you give these moments to God? By giving God your whispering thoughts, the common becomes uncommon."* Giving our 'whispering thoughts' to the Lord can most certainly turn an everyday commute into a pilgrimage. And what is the difference between a pilgrimage and our everyday journeys? A pilgrimage is holy and it is essentially a search for spiritual significance, which can be a deep, metaphorical journey into one's abiding faith and belief... the faith in Jesus that grounds us. Keep Jesus upon your heart, and let the Lord be present in all your waking moments. Your home can become your cathedral and your time away a holy pilgrimage. In other words, wherever the summer finds you, remember God is ever present, ever listening, and ready to receive your deepest thoughts. Stay focused on the divine purpose and journey as you enjoy a time of rest, here and afar!



WEEKLY HAPPENINGS



THIS SUNDAY

Fourth Pentecost

July 7, 2019

- Holy Eucharist, Rite I at 8:00 AM
- Holy Eucharist, Rite II at 10:30 AM

Wednesday

July 10, 2019

- Contemplative Prayer at 11:30 AM in the Sanctuary
 - Holy Eucharist at 12:00 PM

Thursday

July 11, 2019

- EYC Design Team Meeting at 7:00 PM in the Parlor

July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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	1	2	3	4	5	6
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HAPPY 4TH of JULY

5:30pm WW / PH

7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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8:00am HE Rite I
10:30am HE Rite II

11:30am Contem-
plative Prayer / S
12:00pm HE / S

5:30pm WW / PH

7:00 EYC Design
Team Meeting / P

14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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8:00am HE Rite I
10:30am HE Rite II

5:30pm WW / PH

21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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8:00am HE Rite I
10:30am HE Rite II

11:30am Contem-
plative Prayer / S
12:00pm HE / S

5:30pm WW / PH

28	29	30	31
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8:00am HE Rite I
10:30am HE Rite II

5:30pm WW / PH

Weekly Church Duties

CHURCH DUTIES

	<u>July 7</u>	<u>July 14</u>	<u>July 21</u>	<u>July 28</u>
8:00 am Reader	Sandy Gabel	Sandy Gabel	Dottie Snyder	Sherry Owens
8:00 am Chalcist	Jesse Sullins	Sherry Owens	Jesse Sullins	Robert Powell
10:30 am Readers	Clayton Ramsey	David Smith	Grey Currin	Tammy Howard
	Andrew Swanner	Joe Tartamella	Anna K. Spittler	David Holden
10:30 am Prayers	Gale Duque	Nina Cheatham	Charlotte Watson	June Manning
10:30 am Crucifer	Caroline Pahl	Anna K. Spittler	Anna K. Spittler	Marleigh Swanner
10:30 am Banner				
10:30 am Flag Bearer				
10:30 am Flag Bearer				
10:30 am Torch Bearer	Eliza Pahl	Joshua Spittler		
10:30 am Torch Bearer	Marleigh Swanner	Samuel Spittler		
10:30 am Chalcists	Jerry Broyal	Sam Currin	Marcia Byrd	Lillian Hicks
	George Foster	Dawn Lemons	David Holden	Jennifer Tartamella
10:30 am Greeters	Joe Tartamella		Harvey Spurr	Andrew Swanner
	Tammy Howard		Marlene Spurr	Lindsey Swanner
Nursery Helper	Amy Stone	Susan Foster	Mary Hicks	Frances Mathews
Coffee Hour	Grey Currin	Grey Currin	Grey Currin	Grey Currin
Vestry Person	David Spittler	David Spittler	David Spittler	David Spittler

Each month you receive an email asking about your availability to serve during the upcoming month. Going forward, please respond to this email each month by the stated deadline even if you are available for any Sunday. This will give us confirmation that you saw the notice. Thank you for your cooperation as always!

ALTAR GUILD

July 1 - 7	*Charlotte Watson	Ruth Hicks	Susie Pahl	Lillian Hicks
July 8 - 14	*Grey Currin	Jennifer Tartamella		
July 15 - 21	*Lea Lea Ivey	Sarah Johnson	Kelly Holden	
July 22 - 28	*Maureen Taylor	Elizabeth Taylor	Pat Nelson	
July 29 - August 4	*Helen Mitchell	Lindsey Swanner	Susan Foster	

Financials May 2019

<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budget</u>
Pledge Offering	\$ 13,707.00	\$ 14,828.00
Non-pledge Offering	2,115.00	2,224.00
Miscellaneous Income	910.00	1,250.00
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 16,732.00	\$ 18,302.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Diocese Support	\$ 1,987.00	\$ 1,984.00
Office/Administrative	225.00	225.00
Christian Education	0.00	25.00
Insurance	2,476.00	883.00
Personnel Expense	3,673.00	3,746.00
Utilities/Maintenance Contracts	2,153.00	2,143.00
Rector (Salary, Pensions, Benefits, Etc.)	9,956.00	9,935.00
Worship	120.00	100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 18,127.00	\$ 19,041.00
NET OPERATING TOTAL	\$ -3,383.00	\$ -739.00

Message from the Treasurer

We are now well into summer – a time that affects the church in several ways. One of those is the fluctuation in Sunday attendance. Kids are out of school, families are taking vacations; we shift into 'low gear' in some respects. But, it is important to be in church when you are in town. Your presence impacts the vitality of everything we do. Fluctuation in attendance can also impact our cash flow.

You will be receiving your 2nd quarter statement in a few days which will tell you where you are in meeting your 2019 pledge if you made one or what gifts you have made to St. Stephen's YTD if you haven't pledged. Most of our parishioners are current on their pledge payments; some have already paid their entire pledge. If you haven't paid ½ of your 2019 pledge yet, please consider making up that difference if you can. If you haven't paid anything toward your pledge, please try to do so. And, if you haven't yet pledged, it's **not too late!**

Sherry Owens, *Treasurer*

ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE

**We STILL need a minimum of
\$8,464 in Pledge and Non-Pledge gifts
to balance our 2019 expense budget.**

CAN YOU HELP?

St. Stephen's Pastoral In-Reach

Vestry Contacts: *Mack Harris, Sam Currin, & David Spitler*

July **Birthdays**

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 3 | Dave Day |
| 3 | Elizabeth Taylor |
| 10 | John Coplin |
| 10 | Amy Stone |
| 11 | Preston Johnson |
| 14 | Pat Nelson |
| 17 | Marleigh Swanner |
| 24 | Herb Gregory |
| 25 | Sam Currin |
| 30 | Tom Currin |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|--------------------------|
| 9 | Joe & Betty Jo Hamme |
| 25 | Preston & Leslie Johnson |
| 27 | Joe & Laurel Sciortino |

† Marsha Ellington, Mary Branch, Pam Martin, Kelly Holden, Dick Taylor, Cissie Bryan



Parishioners: Lucy Landis Moore, Jesse Sullins, Jimmy Winston, Gladys Tyson, Hubert Jackson, Carlton Garrett, Grace Garrett, Lynn Wilbur, Mary Helen Talbott, Rives Hicks, Jim Branch, Dave Ivey

Non-Parishioners: Jerrad Wilkinson, Vivi Drake, Gale Mahan, Isaiah Newton, Henry Moore, Jeffrey Ferrell, Carolyn Stovall, Florette Moore, Therese Josefsson, Leon Josefsson, Evelyn Champion, Michelle Campbell, Joe Sacco, Ronnie, Myra Clark, Leonard Arriola, Chelsea Stroud, Jimmy Bailey, Janelle Ramsey, Antonio Arriola, David Arriola, Jerry Parnell, Hazel Lyon, Phyllis Harris, Herbert Washington, Martha Hight, Don Smith, Jesus Rivera, Terri Imordino, Rose Grantham, Mary Salvo



St. Elizabeth Guild Visitation Ministry

July Visitation Team

Mary Ann Brewer, Mary Ruth Edmundson, Lucy Moore, & Pat Nelson



Worship & Welcome / Church Life

Vestry Contacts: *Mary Hicks & Frank Folger / Helen Mitchell & David Smith*

Noon Eucharist

On Wednesdays, July 10th and July 24th, join us at 11:30 AM in the Sanctuary for individual Contemplative Prayer, followed by Holy Eucharist at 12:00 PM.

Low Country Boil



Mark Your Calendars!

Friday, August 23rd ~ 5:00-7:30PM

Tickets are available!

St. Stephen's Outreach

Vestry Contacts: *John Coplin & Marcia Byrd*

There will be an Outreach Committee meeting on Sunday, August 4th at 11:45 AM in the Parlor. Ongoing projects include the support of

- ACIM
- Murdoch Developmental Center
- Boys and Girls Club
- The Hope House on Orange Street
- Penn Avenue Soup Kitchen



There are so many ways to volunteer time, treasure, or talent to these organizations through our organized efforts. Please join us!



ACIM (Area Congregations in Ministry)

This ecumenical ministry that we so lovingly support is in great need of food donations! Please bring canned food or dry food items to the St. Stephen's Parish Hall or you can take them directly to ACIM on Roxboro Road. Monetary donations are also welcome! **However, more volunteers are needed to assist with the increase in food donations, the number of people & requests, and the newly expanded hours (11:30-1:30 M-W-F). NO HEAVY LIFTING REQUIRED.** Please call John Coplin at 919-690-2819 or Marcia Byrd at 919-236-3764 for more information and to sign-up.

In addition, there is a big need for personal hygiene items, including diapers for children.

Hunger and poverty are among us in very surprising ways, and together we can make a difference to fight against it!

Boys & Girls Club

The Boys & Girls Club needs help for their all-day summer camp! Registration for the **whole summer is only \$225 per student** but unfortunately, many of their families cannot afford the registration fee. If you are able to sponsor a child or donate toward a child's tuition, please do so!

The Boys & Girls Club will need tutors for "Power Hour" (homework time) at their facility on Broad Street when the new academic year begins in August, so go ahead and submit your form for a background check and get approved. The beauty of this opportunity is that there is flexibility - you can go everyday or once a month, no need to sign-up. The children at the Club need our assistance as they strive to be successful in school and in life!



St. Stephen's Property Committee

Vestry Contacts: *Cindy Bostic, Emil Malinowski, & Joe Sciortino*

Agenda Items for 2019

The following items are on the agenda for the Church Property Committee for this new year. The planning and work details of these items are already underway! Keep an eye-out for the work as it unfolds!

Columbarium Repair: The Columbarium repair project is now complete with the addition of a beautiful copper cap. This copper cap was added to preserve and to protect the columbarium wall and its contents from the elements and add beauty to the structure. This lovely repair could not have been completed without the work and effort of Charlie Easton. A memorial plaque will soon be added to the back of the wall, "*To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Charlie and Rosemary Easton*".

Paving the Parking Lot: The parking lot is in very poor condition and must be re-paved. We can no longer patch or fill-in the troubled spots. **Plans are underway to re-pave the Parking lot this summer.**

Cleaning the Sanctuary: The Sanctuary is well overdue for a good spring cleaning. But first, the dust and dirt that have been collecting over the many years high-up on the beams and cross-bars needs to be blown down and then a through cleaning can then take place. **The plan is to clean the Sanctuary this summer. Stay tuned for specific dates.**

Hancock Memorial: A committee (Cindy Bostic, Mack Harris, & Pat Nelson) has been in place since the Fall. **A proper memorial has been selected and commissioned. We hope to have a dedication in the Fall of 2019.**

Sidewalk Repair: There are several places on the property where the sidewalks are breaking away and are uneven. Research and conversation about next steps are underway.

Vestry Minutes coming soon.



**ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL
CHURCH - OXFORD
ESTABLISHED 1823**

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Mission Statement: *We are dedicated
to sharing the Gospel and love of
Christ Jesus through service to our
Church, community, and world.*

Parish People

Rector - *The Rev. James L. Pahl, Jr., D.Min. (Jamie)*

rector@ststephensoxford.org

Treasurer/Administrator - *Sherry Owens*

office@ststephensoxford.org

Director of Music/Organist - *Sharon Curry*

michaelsharonc@aol.com

Sexton - *William Harris*

Senior Warden - *John Coplin*

jfcoplin@gmail.com

Junior Warden - *Cindy Bostic*

4bostics@embarqmail.com

