



<b>September 2019</b> <b>Week One</b>		<b>St. Stephen's Episcopal Church</b> <b>Oxford, North Carolina</b>	
		 <h1 style="text-align: center; color: orange;">The Weekly Messenger</h1>	
<b>Inside this issue:</b>		<b>“The Secret Beauty”</b> <b><i>The Rev. Dr. James L. Pahl, Jr.</i></b>	
<b><i>Weekly Happenings</i></b>	<b>2</b>	<p>It has been one of the greatest joys of my life to be Rector of St. Stephen's Oxford. To be a part of the rich history and tradition going back to 1823 is very special. And, I thank God for all that we have accomplished together in ministry. Yes, the past eleven years have been filled with joys, sorrows, ups and downs, frustrations, thanksgivings, and many blessings! I look back on them now and thank the Lord for walking with you and me - we have done this together.</p> <p>In reality, when I ponder the better part of the past decade, I see family, friends, and relationships that have shaped and formed you and me – even with some folks who are not so sad to see me go. This is a real testament to this faith community because it is truly not about the build-ings, history, family connections, gifts we share, etc. The secret beauty of this place is you, the people, and your love for one another and the purpose of St. Stephen's in the first place.</p> <p>I get emotional every time I think about leaving. This has become home; my children have grown-up here. But at the same time, I so strongly believe in the power and freedom of self-awareness – where God allows us to see things; taking a hard look at the surroundings outside one's self, and perhaps attaining a big-picture view for our own personal assessment. In this case, I am confident my leaving will allow the Lord to create anew in this church and in me. I thank you and God for allowing me to see this. I want to thank those parishioners who have actively engaged the worship and community aspects of who we are called to be. Without your regular presence in church and the gifts of your time and talent, there would be no reason to gather on Sunday mornings or to do what we do in the name of Jesus.</p> <p>Too often, we hear the old cliché, <i>“What we need here in this church is more young people and young families”</i>. I heard it said recently, and I agree; it would be great to see. But the reality is, every church is struggling to get the younger generations to come – and no one can force another to do something that is not a priority in their life. Yes, efforts have been and should continue to be made. But, I will say this... I am thankful and so proud to have been a part of a church where we have regularly acquired new members, no matter their age or demographics – they come because we are a welcoming community and we have fun together. Where St. Stephen's needs to begin, is in the return of current members – this is my hope and prayer. To this end, I share the words of the Apostle Paul in his letter to Philemon.</p> <p><i>“When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been re-freshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love.”</i> I love you all!</p>	
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# **WEEKLY HAPPENINGS**



## **THIS SUNDAY**

### **Twelfth Pentecost**

***September 1, 2019***

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

## **Tuesday**

***September 3, 2019***

- Brass and silver polishing at 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall

## **Wednesday**

***September 4, 2019***

- Ice Cream mixing beginning at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall

## **Thursday**

***September 5, 2019***

- Ice Cream freezing beginning at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall

# September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:00am HE Rite I 10:30am HE Rite II	<b>2 LABOR DAY</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>3</b> 10:00am Brass Polishing / PH	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:00am HE Rite I 9:15am Children/Youth SS 9:30am Adult SS 10:30am HE Rite II 11:45am Farewell Luncheon for Jamie	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 5:30pm WW / PH	<b>11</b> 7:00pm Adult Choir	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:00-4:00pm Hot Sauce Festival
<b>15</b> <i>Recognition Sunday</i> 8:00am HE Rite I 9:15am Children/Youth SS 9:30am Adult SS 10:30am HE Rite II	<b>16</b> 4:45pm Executive Committee / Office 5:30pm Vestry / PH	<b>17</b> 5:30pm WW / PH	<b>18</b> 5:15pm Youth Choir 7:00pm Adult Choir	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9:00am Gather for trip to Murdoch for monthly visit to Royal Cottage
<b>22</b> 8:00am HE Rite I 9:15am Children/Youth SS 9:30am Adult SS 10:30am HE Rite II  5:00-7:00pm EYC / PH	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:30pm WW / PH	<b>25</b> 5:15pm Youth Choir 7:00pm Adult Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:00am HE Rite I 9:15am Children/Youth SS 9:30am Adult SS 10:30am HE Rite II	<b>30</b>					

## Weekly Church Duties

<b><u>CHURCH DUTIES</u></b>	<b><u>September 1</u></b>	<b><u>September 8</u></b>	<b><u>September 15</u></b>	<b><u>September 22</u></b>	<b><u>September 29</u></b>
8:00 am Reader	Sandy Gabel	Sandy Gabel	Dottie Snyder	Sherry Owens	Sandy Gabel
8:00 am Chalcist	Robert Powell	Sherry Owens	Jesse Sullins	Sherry Owens	Jesse Sullins
10:30 am Readers	David Smith	Andrew Swanner	Grey Currin	Marcia Byrd	Lyn Dartt
	David Holden	Tammy Howard	Joe Tartamella	Clarence Lemons	Lindsey Swanner
10:30 am Prayers	Sherry Owens	Nina Cheatham	Charlotte Watson	June Manning	Gale Duque
10:30 am Crucifer	Caroline Pahl	Henry Pahl	Samuel Spittler	David Folger	Samuel Spittler
10:30 am Banner/Gospel	Eliza Pahl	Jonah Pahl	Joshua Spittler		Joshua Spittler
10:30 am Flag Bearer					
10:30 am Flag Bearer					
10:30 am Torch Bearer		Caroline Pahl		Kathryn Folger	
10:30 am Torch Bearer		Eliza Pahl		Marleigh Swanner	
10:30 am Chalcists	Sam Currin	Jerry Broyal	David Holden	Marcia Byrd	George Foster
	Jenny Koinis	Sherry Owens	Jennifer Tartamella	Dawn Lemons	Jennifer Tartamella
10:30 am Greeters	Bernie Nelson	Tammy Howard	Andrew Swanner	Harvey Spurr	Bernie Nelson
	Pat Nelson	Joe Tartamella	Lindsey Swanner	Marlene Spurr	Pat Nelson
Nursery Helper		Frances Mathews	Mary Hicks	Susan Foster	Amy Stone
Coffee Hour	Ruth Hicks	Ruth Hicks	Ruth Hicks	Ruth Hicks	Ruth Hicks
Vestry Person	Marcia Byrd	Marcia Byrd	Marcia Byrd	Marcia Byrd	Marcia Byrd

**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

<b>August 26 - Sept. 1</b>	*Gail Washington	Mary Hicks	Marlene Campbell	
<b>Sept. 2 - 8</b>	*Nina Cheatham	June Manning		
<b>Sept. 9 - 15</b>	*Julia Day	Amy Stone	Jenny Koinis	
<b>Sept. 16 - 22</b>	*Eve Harris	Dawn Lemons	Cindy Bostic	Ginny Hicks
<b>Sept. 23 - Sept. 29</b>	*Charlotte Watson	Ruth Hicks	Lillian Hicks	
<b>Sept. 30 - Oct. 6</b>	*Grey Currin	Jennifer Tartamella		

## Financials July 2019

<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>MTD Actual</u>	<u>MTD Budget</u>
Pledge Offering	\$ 19,205.00	\$ 14,878.00
Non-pledge Offering	4,266.00	2,224.00
Miscellaneous Income	910.00	1,250.00
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 24,381.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,352.00</b>
 <u>EXPENSES</u>		
Diocese Support	\$ 1,987.00	\$ 1,984.00
Office/Administrative	144.00	225.00
Christian Education	13.00	25.00
Insurance	0.00	883.00
Personnel Expense	3,573.00	3,746.00
Utilities/Maintenance Contracts	1,944.00	2,143.00
Rector (Salary, Pensions, Benefits, Etc.)	9,687.00	9,935.00
Worship	77.00	100.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 17,425.00</b>	<b>\$ 19,041.00</b>
<b>NET OPERATING TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,956.00</b>	<b>\$ -689.00</b>

***The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it .***

***from Psalm 24***

## Message from the Treasurer

Fall is just around the corner. It seems impossible that we are almost 3/4 way through another year, but that is the reality. From the spiritual viewpoint, we approach the last quarter of every year experiencing the final weeks of 'Ordinary Time' in the church year and anticipating the season of *Advent* which leads us to *Christmas*. From the 'business of the church' viewpoint, we take stock of where we are in relation to our budget projections for the current year and how that will translate to the next year's budget and the upcoming *stewardship* kickoff! We should open ourselves up to new ways of thinking and acting about our 'giving' in the year ahead. In preparation for that, we should spend some time contemplating why we give to the church. Many of us would say it is in response to God's grace and mercy because God always gives! And, there is no doubt truth in that response. I would suggest that 'giving to the church is also a privilege' – one many of us have lost sight of in today's world of increasing opportunities for involvement and for service. The years of watching parents and grandparents put their weekly 'tithe' into a numbered envelope and faithfully drop it into the collection plate each Sunday are a faded memory for most of us. Today many of us lump our giving into once a month or once a quarter or even once a year. And the method of the gift may very well be an electronic check or the transfer of stock or a bank draft. No doubt those gifts and methods are appreciated and efficient both for the giver and receiver. But as we approach the time when we will discern what we can give to support the life and ministry of St. Stephen's in 2020, let's all take a little time to reflect on the 'privilege' of our giving and how we might demonstrate that to those around us.

Sherry Owens, *Treasurer*

## ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE

**We NOW need a minimum of  
\$6,864 in Pledge and Non-Pledge gifts  
to balance our 2019 expense budget.**

(In case you aren't keeping up, we've reduced the amount by \$1600 in three weeks)

**CAN YOU HELP?**



# St. Stephen's Pastoral In-Reach

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

## September

### Birthdays

- 2 Cindy Bostic
- 8 Sharon Curry
- 10 Claire Ramsey
- 12 Jennifer Tartamella
- 14 Mary Ann Brewer
- 16 Nina Cheatham
- 17 Madeline Basnight
- 17 Jane Falkner
- 19 Cissie Bryan
- 22 Joshua Ramsey
- 22 Nicholas Ramsey
- 25 Debra Holden Cowart
- 26 Jimmy Winston
- 28 Lea Lea Ivey

### Anniversaries

- 9 Ruth & Rives Hicks
- 15 Billy & Joan Blackwell
- 21 David & Margaret Spitler
- 26 Scott & Jane Dickerson

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



**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 Immordino, Rose Grantham, Mary Salvo, Mary Lou Bowen, Janet Finch, Martha Mann



## St. Elizabeth Guild Visitation Ministry

### September Visitation Team

**Jane Falkner, Susan Foster, Helen Keiller, Pam Muller, Marlene Spurr**

## **Worship & Welcome / Church Life**

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



### **Recognition Sunday, September 15th**

**On Sunday, September 15th we are encouraging everyone (young and old) to attend worship, as we will be recognizing all the good work that is being done to make St. Stephen's a successful parish. We will be recognizing all ministries and participants during the 10:30 AM service!**

**ognizing all ministries and participants during the 10:30 AM service!**

**Please make every effort to be present!**

**Ministries & Committees: Outreach, Pastoral In-reach, Worship & Welcome, Church Life, Christian Education (Youth), Property, Endowment, Hancock Memorial, Church Safety, EYC Design Team, Finance, Knitting Ministry, Fish & Loaves, ACIM volunteers, Boys & Girls Club volunteers, Hope House volunteers, etc. Did we miss anybody? Please let us know.**

## **Sunday, September 8th**

### **Pot-Luck Lunch**

**Please join us on Sunday, September 8th for 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM worship as Jamie preaches and celebrates his final two services as Rector of St. Stephen's. Following the 10:30 AM service, join us for a Pot-Luck luncheon as we celebrate the past eleven years of Jamie's life and ministry with us. This will be our chance to bid a fond farewell to Jamie and his family and wish them the best on the new leg of their journey!**

**Church Life will provide the entrees and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.**





### EYC - The Youth Group

St. Stephen's youth group had a wonderful kick-off event at the Oxford Park Swim Club on the evening of August 16th. The EYC will be helping at the Hot Sauce Festival on Saturday, September 14th and have many projects and events planned in the coming year. Keep all our youth and the leaders in your thoughts and prayers! The next official EYC meeting will be Sunday, September 22nd from 5:00 - 7:00 PM at the church!

### 2019/2020 Leadership & Meals

**EYC Thank You:** A special thank you to Lindsey and Andrew Swanner for doing a great job leading the EYC last year. This program year, Bettye Currin and Jerry Broyal will be the leaders, and they will be shadowed by Marcia Byrd and Margaret Spitler who will be the leaders the following year. Thanks to all these wonderful volunteers who give their time to our youth.

**EYC Dinners:** Would you like to share dinner with our most engaging parishioners? The EYC needs volunteers to prepare dinner for their monthly meetings. The meetings are held in the Parish Hall and dinner is served at 6:00 PM. Please see the sign-up sheet on the round table in the Parish Hall to enjoy sharing your best dish with some of St. Stephen's best!

### Adult & Youth Choir Practice

Choir practice resumes on Wednesday, September 4th at 7:00 PM for the Adults, and on Wednesday, September 11th at 5:15 PM for Youth.



### St. Stephen's Knitters

#### "Knitting for Premies"

Please join those who enjoy knitting and crocheting as we continue to supply Duke Children's Hospital with premie booties, hats and blankets.

We meet on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Choir Room.

Please consider joining us as we kick-off on Tuesday, September 10th at 10:00 AM in the Choir Room. Everyone is welcome!



## St. Stephen's Outreach

**Vestry Contacts: *John Coplin & Marcia Byrd***

### Outreach Meeting

**Sunday, September 22nd**



This is a time to discuss and firm-up the many outreach events and projects we have in the coming months, from the Murdoch Center in Butner to Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets later this year! We will also review the success of the Hot Sauce Festival. Please join us in the Parlor at **11:45 AM** on Sunday, September 22nd! All are welcome!



### Ice-Cream Making

**Wednesday and Thursday, September 4th & 5th**

In the Parish Hall beginning at **9:00 AM**.

In preparation for the Hot Sauce Festival.

Please sign-up for a shift and join us!

### **ACIM (Area Congregations in Ministry)**

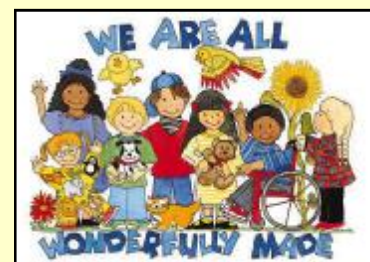
This ecumenical ministry that we so lovingly support is in great need of food donations! Please bring canned food or dry food items to the St. Stephen's Parish Hall or you can take them directly to ACIM on Roxboro Road. Monetary donations are also welcome! **However, more volunteers are needed to assist 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. Hunger and poverty are among us in very surprising ways, and together we can make a difference to fight against it!



### **Murdoch Developmental Center**

#### **Royal Cottage Visitation**

**Saturday, September 21st**



Meet us in the church parking lot at 9:00 AM on Saturday, September 21st to depart for a visit to Royal Cottage at the Murdoch Developmental Center. We will be sharing activities, snacks, and celebrating birthdays with the residents of the cottage. Your presence will brighten their day - and yours too!

# North Carolina Hot Sauce Contest

**September 14, 2019**

*The events run from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM*

**Hotdogs, Homemade Ice Cream, Homemade French Fries, Drinks, Fellowship and more!**

**All proceeds support our Community Outreach! We need you (the St. Stephen's Family) to help us have another successful year!**

**We encourage everyone to sign-up on the duties sheet in the Parish Hall! Together we can serve, have fun and assist our community needs!**



## St. Stephen's Property Committee

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

### 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 and/or complete. Please 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 dedicated and placed on the back of the wall. Its reads, "To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Charlie and Rosemary Easton".

**Paving the Parking Lot:** In a matter of days we will have a new paved parking lot! We thank Joe Sciortino for all his work and coordination with the contractor to make this happen! Please tell Joe thank you when you see him!

**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 fall. Stay tuned for specific dates as we identify the best to time to do this work. Thanks for your patience!

**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. It is in the final stages of production! We hope to have a dedication later in the Fall of 2019.

### St. Stephen's Playground Benches

*We would like to thank Barbara DuRant for donating two concrete benches from her mother's home! They now sit in the playground area, adjacent to the Pavilion, enhancing the beauty of the church property. Thank you Barbara! And thank you to Joe Sciortino for setting and securing them in their location!*



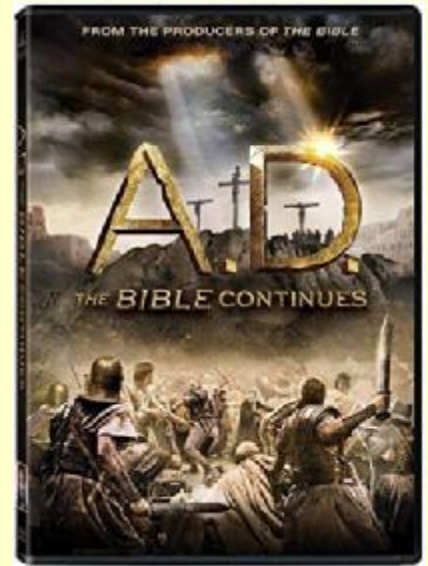


## Adult Christian Education (9:30 AM) - Fall Schedule 2019

**September 1 - No Sunday School (Labor Day Weekend)**

### **Program: "A.D. - The Bible Continues"**

*This spectacular 12-part series picks up where The Bible left off. This powerful spiritual journey begins with the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, chronicling the heroic acts and sacrifices of His early followers during the most tumultuous of times as they change the course of human history. Come and join us as we watch this production in segments and engage in fruitful discussion.*



**September 8th – "The Tomb is Open"**

**September 15th – "The Tomb is Open"**

**September 22nd – "The Body is Gone"**

**September 29th – "The Body is Gone"**

**October 6th – "The Spirit Arrives"**

**October 13th – No Sunday School - Old St. John's Homecoming service at 11:00 AM.**

**October 20th – "The Spirit Arrives"**

**October 27th – "The Wrath"**

**November 3rd – "The Wrath"**

**November 10th - "The First Martyr"**

**November 17th - "The First Martyr"**

**November 24th - An Update from the Diocesan Convention Delegates**

**December 1st - "The Persecution"**

## **Godly Play/Seasons of the Spirit & Youth Bible Study**

### **Fall Schedule 2019**

**Godly Play and Seasons of the Spirit will be a combined program this Fall with biblical stories told in the unique Godly Play way, and the focused discussions found in Seasons of the Spirit. Bible Study for youth in Middle School and High School will continue with Sarah Johnson. All programming begins on Sunday, September 8th at 9:15 AM. We want to thank Sarah Johnson, Tammy Howard, Amy Stone, Joe & Jennifer Tartamella, Claire Ramsey, June Manning, Lea Lea Ivey, and other parishioners from time to time who give of their Sunday mornings for our youth—Thank you!**



# Foyer Kickoff Picnic

Please join us at little Grassy Creek Farm,  
located between Oxford and Stovall

**SATURDAY, September 28, 2019**

Sandy and Laura Gabel will provide burgers and 'dogs

Please bring a dish to share -  
apps, salad, veggies, dessert

Gather at 5 p.m. - we'll eat around 6 p.m.

**EVERYONE is welcome to this parish-wide event -  
no previous Foyer experience necessary!**

We will choose Foyer groups at the picnic, so if you're  
interested in learning more about what Foyer is, the  
picnic is the PERFECT place to be!

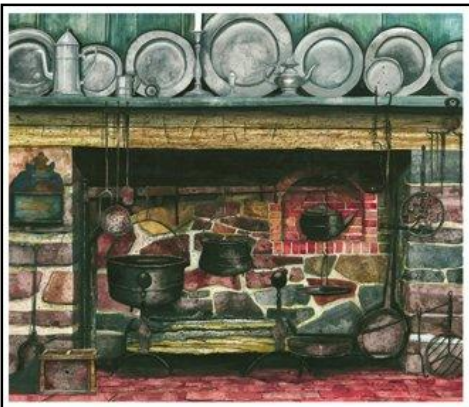
Please sign up in the parish hall and note if you are willing to  
drive others

**7609 Sam Young Road, Oxford**

Carpool from church parking lot -  
details to follow

BYOB(beverage)  
**BYOLC (lawn chair)**





## Foyer Group Ministry

### A History & Purpose in Gathering

The English word Foyer is derived from foier, the French term for hearthside and projects an image of warmth and comfort. For untold generations it has been customary for Americans to welcome old friends, family members and newcomers into our homes by gathering at the central hearthside to celebrate special occasions, to enjoy times of fellowship and share moments of camaraderie. In tune with this time-honored tradition of hospitality the Anglican Community has for many years encouraged the formation of small informal Parish gatherings called Foyer Groups; small, close-knit groups of parishioners sharing a common bond of Christian love and concern for one another. The idea originated at the Cathedral of St. Michael, in the Diocese of Coventry, England – born of the massive devastation inflicted at the height of the German Blitz on London and Coventry during World War II. During one of the many air raids conducted in 1940, the city's 14th century cathedral was completely destroyed as a result of the aerial bombardment. Rather than dwell on the violent loss of his beloved place of worship, the local Provost was inspired to found a ministry of reconciliation that he called the Community of the Cross and Nails. While sifting through the rubble of the cathedral, he gathered many of the old nails that had fallen among the ruins and was inspired to have them twisted together to form a cross. This cross of nails and the words "Father, Forgive" became the unifying symbol of the International Ministry of Reconciliation, a group of devout followers who believe that understanding between peoples, nations, and ideologies can come only when human beings meet and know each other as individuals. They truly live out the maxim "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me." In 1967, the staff of the Coventry Cathedral began meeting together in small informal groups as a means "to bridge the divisions which subtly separate us one from another"; as a result of the meetings they noticed a powerful bond forming among the staff members who joined what they came to call the Foyer Group. Two years later, the Foyer movement spread to the congregation of Coventry Cathedral and then beyond. In time, Foyer Groups began springing up in parishes all over Britain and in America. Today, many Episcopal churches throughout the United States have foyer groups that promote fellowship amongst members and encourage the informal exchange of ideas, experiences and common problems within friendly home surroundings and in a Christian context. Foyer Groups are a fun and easy way for parishioners to gather together on a regular but informal basis for purely social reasons – to enjoy one another's company, to strengthen bonds of community, to meet new members and just to get to know other people who share a common interest in Grace but with whom we might not otherwise interact. They provide a means to develop new friendships and deepen old ones and are a way to make our sometimes-too-large-seeming parish feel smaller and warmer. There is no agenda or plan – just casual fellowship and a refreshing meal. Groups are made up of singles, couples, young people, retired folks, etc., in other words a cross section of the parish. Out of the meetings, friendships develop among people who might not have any other opportunity to meet and get to know each other. Newcomers are especially invited to join one of the groups at any time.

Vestry Minutes coming soon.



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

140 College Street  
Oxford, NC 27565  
(919) 693-9740

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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](mailto:rector@ststephensoxford.org)

**Treasurer/Administrator** - *Sherry Owens*

[office@ststephensoxford.org](mailto:office@ststephensoxford.org)

**Director of Music/Organist** - *Sharon Curry*

[michaelsharonc@aol.com](mailto:michaelsharonc@aol.com)

**Sexton** - *William Harris*

**Senior Warden** - *John Coplin*

[jfcoplin@gmail.com](mailto:jfcoplin@gmail.com)

**Junior Warden** - *Cindy Bostic*

[4bostics@embarqmail.com](mailto:4bostics@embarqmail.com)

YOU ARE CALLED  
TO BE GOD'S TEMPLE

1 PETER 2:4-6

