

ST. STEPHEN'S 2007 FALL HAPPENINGS

FALL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Eucharist and groups that meet on a regular basis are:

- Eucharist - Sunday - 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
- Women's Alcoholic's Anonymous - Monday at noon and Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the Chapel.
- Altar Guild – 3rd Tuesday at 10 a.m.
- Covenant Group – 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month 7 p.m.
- ECW – 2nd Wednesday at 1 or 2 p.m.
- Ministry Support Team - 2nd Tues of the month at 7 p.m.
- Prayer Group – 3rd Wednesday 11 a.m.
- Vestry – Third Sunday following Eucharist

There are also several special Eucharists/Sunday/Saturday events. All times are 10 a.m. unless other time is given:

- Sept. 9 Sunday School begins - Fun Day festivities and Indoor Picnic.
- 15 Throw Down the Doors – St. Paul's, Marquette 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- 16 Covenanting of the Covenant Group
Intergenerational Worship
- 22 Preaching Workshop for All Who Preach – St. Stephen's 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
- 23 Confirmation and Bishop Tom Ray's visit.

- Oct. 7 Youth Cook Breakfast
Pet Blessing – 4 p.m.
- 13 ECW Bazaar 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- 21 Intergenerational Worship
Burt Purrington Visit, Date to be announced

- Nov. 4 All Saints Day – Youth Cook Breakfast
- 18 Intergenerational Worship

ECW Bazaar

The ECW Fall Bazaar will be Saturday, October 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Your hand crafted items are needed to make this year's bazaar a success. So get those fingers busy with yarn, material, wood, what ever is your interest.

Don't feel crafts are your strong point? Then head off to the kitchen, get out your favorite recipes, and bring in your baked goods. Bars, cookies, cupcakes, breads, pickles, you cook it ECW will sell it.

And don't forget your white elephants. This is a great way to do a little cleaning. You know those items that are too good to throw away, are in great shape, but you just can't use. They probably will be someone else's treasure so bring them in for the sale.

All items should be labeled with a price. Watch the Bulletin for days and times to bring items to church.

Sunday School Begins September 9

Sunday School begins on September 9. Mike is working hard getting the room spruced up, the floor all shiny, and things all ship shape for you all. We have two new comfortable chairs that were donated for the reading tent so there's more flopy seating.

This year will be full of interesting things to do and learn as well our 1st of the month cooking where all are involved in the various tasks needed so the meal is enjoyed by all.

We'll be painting a large painting for Canterbury Hall and do Gospel Plays on Intergenerational Sundays which are the third Sunday of the month.

All youth are welcome as older help younger and we learn, cook, and grow together.

Fun Day – September 9th

Right after church and Sunday School we'll all gather in Canterbury Hall for great food and great fun. We'll have a piñata full of candy and face painting. The Bounce House will be back full of air and fun.

Volunteers are needed to cook hamburgers, set up, and clean up. Please sign up in Canterbury Hall or call Laura Woodworth.

Plan on bringing a friend or neighbor to share Eucharist and stay for a great hamburger picnic, take a swing at the piñata, have some balloons or a rose painted on your face, and Bounce in the House.

SEE YOU ALL THERE.

Delta County Medical Equipment Loan Closet at St. Stephen's

The Delta County Medical Equipment Loan Closet began as an Easter Seals Loan Closet housed at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church with very few items to loan.

When Easter Seals stopped their UP loan closets St. Stephen's Episcopal Church made a decision to continue this outreach to the community.

St. Stephen's has received a grant from the Episcopal Church United Thank Offering to purchase equipment so we could begin to meet the needs of the community and begin operations with sufficient items to loan to operate. **We are deeply grateful for the United Thank Offering Grant** that has given us the funds to begin to meet Delta County residents needs. The grant is to purchase equipment such as tub seats, elevated toilet seats, tub transfer benches, and walkers for initial start up so we will have sufficient items to loan to begin operations

The United Thank Offering is a ministry of the Episcopal Church through which members give daily thanks to God. The discipline begins at home by placing coins in the "Blue Box." Every coin is used to support grants for mission and ministry.

We have made our first loan. And it was to a member of St. Stephen's who remembered hearing about the UTO Grant and called for two items. This member of the St. Stephen's Family has been putting her coins in the little blue box for years. Little did she dream she would be seeing her coins come right back to St. Stephen's!

We should have our funds and equipment from the grant so we can begin letting home health agencies, social workers, and the people of Delta County know we're here with equipment to loan in 4-6 weeks. Meanwhile we do have a very limited number and assortment of items to loan should you or a person you know be in need.

Coffee Hour Schedule – if you are able to take one of the unscheduled Sundays please contact Laurel Nickence.

September 2007

2	9 FUN DAY Sunday School starts and Picnic
16 _____	23 _____
30 Joe & Laurel Nickence	

October 2007

7 YOUTH BREAKFAST	14 Dave & Mary Simmons
21 Karen Ettenhofer	28 _____

November 2007

4 YOUTH BREAKFAST	11 Joyce Micensky and Helen Campbell
18 Judy Andersen	25 Becky Ettenhofer and Katie Lacasse

December 2007

2 YOUTH BREAKFAST	9 _____
16 _____	23 Sallie Timler
30 _____	

January 2008

6 Ungreening of the Church	13 Phil & Liz Deaneau
20	27 Pam & Steve Nygaard

February 2008

3	10	
17 Sue Harris	and Kathy Bennett	24 Jena Young

March 2008

2 YOUTH BREAKFAST	9 _____
16 Luann and Darlene Hay	23 Leila Johns and George & Sherry Lofquist
30	

April 2008

6 YOUTH BREAKFAST	13 _____
20 Sallie Timler and Mary Ann Derourin	
27 Tina LaFave and Dianna Nastoff	

May 2008

4 YOUTH BREAKFAST	11 Virginia Shomin and Cheryl Rusch
18	23

Church at the Park

On July 29th St. Stephen's had its third Church in the Park. About 65 people gathered for Eucharist at the Pavilion at Ludington Park. After Eucharist we all opened up our best summer fixin's to go with the fried chicken.

Was great to see little ones swinging with parents and grand parents, babies on friends knees, our youth as ushers, children "back home" for a visit or the summer, and dogs on walker seats all gathered together as God's People.

During lunch we also enjoyed Bill Jamerson and his stories of the UP sung with guitar or told orally.

Thank you to Mike, Steve, and Rayford for helping bring things to and from the park and Steve for fixing the coffee pot.



Rayford listens as Quinton and Hunter celebrate their birthdays during Church in the Park

St. Stephen's and Trinity Raise Funds with Music for the Salvation Army

What a great night for singing and piano and organ music!!! Sunday August 12 Paul Rajala, a former organ student of Helene Merke and the Elk Rapids Community Choir performed at St. Stephen's. Over 120 people were there to hear the wonderful music from over 30 people in the Community Choir and the playing of Paul Rajala and Cheryl Knight.

Helene was there, smiling proudly from the 1st row as Paul accompanied the choir. The choir did three

Broadway Medleys and one grand hymn with organ and piano. In addition, Paul and Cheryl Knight, the Director of the Elk Rapids Community Choir, played duets on organ and piano, including Finlandia.

The free will offering was given to Major Bill Cox of the Escanaba Salvation Army. Maj Cox was very appreciative of the over \$600.00 that was raised.

Youth Group

Youth from 6th grade through 12th grade are invited to join the fun and learning with the St. Stephen's/Trinity Youth Group. Youth Group meets at Trinity Episcopal Church in Gladstone on Wednesday evenings, including dinner.

Rayford describes this group as “an on going learning experience in scripture and the church in a way the will blow your mind. It is also a part of youth confirmation learning which begins before and continues after the sacrament of Confirmation. \

For more information contact Rayford Ray at 786-7970 or Dale Jamison at 428-2193.

Pet Blessing

Blessing of the Pets will take place at St. Stephen's on Sunday October 7. The service will be at 4 p.m. in Canterbury Hall.

This is a wonderful time of recognizing how special our pets in our lives, how they support and love us. It is a special service, in honor of Catherine Horning, to thank God for these gifts and continue our commitment to care and cherish each of our and all pets.

The service will be followed by a social sharing of food for both pets and their masters and mistresses. Fall Calendar of Upcoming Events at St. Stephen's

Confirmation and Bishop Tom Ray's Visit September 23

Sunday, September 23rd Bishop Tom Ray will be at St. Stephens to celebrate Eucharist. Confirmation and Renewal of Baptismal Vows will be a part of this Eucharist. Tom Lippart will preach.

Mike Thompson will be confirmed and Martha Thompson will renew her Baptismal Vows. Marissa Nygaard and Heather Rusch will be confirmed.

Coffee hour following the service will include a special cake in celebration of and recognition of the those being confirmed and renewing their Baptismal Vows.

Burt Purrington and the Millennium Goals

Burt Purrington will visit St. Stephen's in October. Burt has made many trips to Haiti working with the children there. His sermon will include information about the Episcopal Church and our Millennium Goals and his and

his wife's work in Haiti.

After Eucharist join Burt at the potluck lunch for further discussion about these goals.

The Episcopal Church adopted the Millennium Goals of the United Nations as a priority at our last General Convention. From the ECUSA website these goals are:

Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger - Reduce by half the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day. Reduce by half the proportion of people who suffer from hunger

Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education. Ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling.

Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women. Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels by 2015.

Goal 4: Reduce child mortality. Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five.

Goal 5: Improve maternal health care. Reduce by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio.

Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS. Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases.

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability. Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs; reverse loss of environmental resources. Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water. Achieve significant improvement in lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, by 2020.

Goal 8: Develop a global partnership for development. Develop further an open trading and financial system that is rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory, includes a commitment to good governance, development and poverty reduction- nationally and internationally.

Hospital Visiting

Please remember to call the church 786-7970 or Audrey Hay 786-0505 if you, a member of your family, or a member of St. Stephen's is in the hospital. Hospitals no longer call us or provide a list of church members in the hospital. If it is an out of town hospital we can link you to the Episcopal chaplain at the hospital where you are.

Third Sunday

The third Sunday of the month the open plate offering goes to the Discretionary Fund. This fund helps those in need and supports our outreach work such as the Alliance Against Violence. Please remember this work of St. Stephen's. You can also use the OUTREACH envelopes in the pews and put your name on the envelope. These funds are vital to our work in our neighborhood and community.