

The Guide

A Newsletter of
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
November 2022



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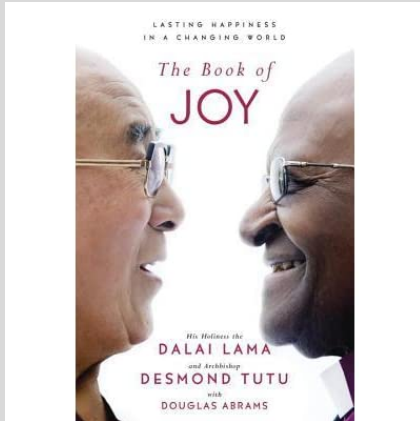
[November Calendar and Rota](#)

From Your Priest



November wonderfully starts with the celebration of All Saints Day on November 1. Following the festivities of All Hallow's Eve (aka Halloween) the Church remembers the saints in light, or what we also call the communion of saints. We often think about saints as being those who are WAY holier than us and there's truth in that, although in the beginning they were just holy people, and not necessarily dead. And then November 2nd is All Souls Day; that means you don't even need to be a saint to be celebrated that day. It's a day for the vast majority of those who have gone before us in our lives. Phew, because I would love to think that when the day comes, my children will remember me not as a saint (never ever will be accused of being one of those!) but as a regular person, a mother who loved them deeply for their entire lives. Some people in our own lives are saints in the truest sense; they have shown us the love that God has for us in very real and meaningful ways even if they aren't recognized by any church. Many of you know I would put my own mother in that category right off the bat; her children, myself included, knew she loved each of us with everything she had and we loved her mightily. No church will ever recognize her, but we, her kids, recognize and cherish the gift of love that she lavished richly upon us. (I was blessed by a mother like this; I don't want to infer that all mothers are as loving and lovable by default. We know that isn't so. I just hit the jackpot.) Real saints, as celebrated in the Church, are few and far between, and almost without exception have fascinating stories of their lives and ministries. I think of St. Catherine of Sienna, my confirmation saint, a woman who lived in the 12th century and did some wild love things, like kissing the sores of a leper. (Ewww..., right?) Or perhaps St. Francis who we have tamed down from his wild and wooly true self to be the saint of animals; actually he was a rebel of the first degree throwing off his wealthy family in a spectacularly naked display in the courts of

Italy to then wander the area as a homeless and destitute monk. No, I don't think I have known any people like that, but I do know my life has been hugely blessed by small "s" saints in so many rich and glorious ways, ways that point to the love God has for me and for all of us like my saint mom. Let the celebration of these first two days come with you during this entire month, recognizing that we have seen God's face in those who have loved us in daily and often mundane ways, ways that formed and changed our lives, pointing us to the grace of God always present.



The Book of Joy

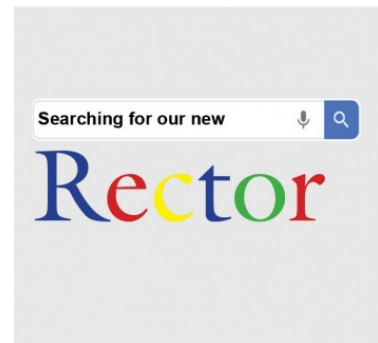
“snack sized' chunks of wisdom to take away and apply”

Join the discussion group that meets Fridays at 10 am in the office area.

Coffee and lively conversation provided.

St.Stephen's Needs YOU!

We will be moving into our search for a new rector soon and we invite you to consider your part in helping this community move forward with the Holy Spirit in this important work. Applications for those who feel called to this ministry will be available soon; for now, pray about it and ask God if this is your call to serve your parish.



Are you Crafty?

Do you really enjoy yarn or glitter or popsicle sticks or glue guns or...? Then your interim rector would really like to talk with you about an Advent fun workshop for St. Stephen's.

Please see Rev Susanna if you are interested.

CONSECRATION
SUNDAY

November 6 after the 10 am worship

Thank you to everyone who has submitted a financial pledge to St. Stephen's. We will celebrate Consecration Sunday on All Saints Day, November 6, when we will bless all the pledges and enjoy a wonderful lunch together. The church will provide chicken; your side dishes and desserts are requested to make for a great party lunch. Everyone is welcome.

Theology on Tap

Theology on tap will meet on Thursday November 17th at Kinkaiders, 5:30 pm. Everyone is welcome as we eat together and explore the deeper issues of our faith life.



Youth News



Candy Prayer

Pick a colored candy and pray accordingly.

- ***Green:** Prayer for family and loved ones
- ***Yellow:** Pray for teachers and those who give you direction.
- ***Orange:** Pray for leaders in school, government and church.
- ***Red:** Pray for those that are sick, poor and in need.
- ***Blue:** Pray for yourself and your needs.
- ***Brown:** Give Thanks to God
Amen.

God's Spirit Moves! Upcoming Events

Lyons Assembly

November 18-20th First Lutheran Church in Kearney is hosting the Lutheran Youth of Nebraska event for all youth 9th-12th grade. Let Courtney know if you are interested in attending this event.

Care Packages

We will be boxing up our care packages November 2nd from 6-7:30 at Messiah. A meal will be provided. Please let Courtney know if you plan on attending.

Mission Trip 2023

We are heading to Nashville! More info to come.

Thanksgiving Worship

Thanksgiving Worship will be available with our friends at Messiah Lutheran Church. Look for details



including date and time in the weeks to come. And remember to always give thanks to God.

Don't forget - Daylight Saving Time ends on November 6.

This is the good one for you sleepyheads; fall back one hour.

See you at 10 am November 6, central standard time.



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Make a Call, Send a Card, Say a Prayer

On Our Prayer Lists

Those in need of healing or for other concerns: Robin, Jerry, Don, Jayda, Nancy, Donna, Jan, Rob, Russell, Hayden, Sandra, Dan O'Hare, Elliot, Daina, Joalie, Corrine, Rene, Hunter, Mike and Donna, Cindy, Hank and Pam, Blakeley, Mary and family

Homebound: Lloyd, Melba and Paul Kunzelman, Sue

*Prayer requests can be emailed to Donna at dowesm@yahoo.com
The prayer lists are printed in the bulletin weekly and monthly in The Guide. If you would like to add a name (or remove a name) from the prayer list or add birthdays and anniversaries, please call the church office at 308-382-4961 or email Lynne.*



Birthday Blessings to:

Raynette Martin - Nov. 2
Susan Regier - Nov. 7
Jack Rasmussen - Nov. 15
Hunter Cook - Nov. 27
Sarah Hansen - Nov. 30

Anniversary Congrats to:

Fred & Kaila Roeser - Nov. 2
Bob & Billie Condy - Nov. 19
Susanna DesMarais & Dow Cessna - Nov. 21

How Can YOU Connect with St. Stephen's?

Worship Services

Holy Eucharist on Sundays at 10 a.m.

Christian Education

Small groups, Friday mornings, 10 a.m. and Saturday mornings, 9 a.m.
Youth Group Events as Announced

Church Office Hours - Please note there's been a change

Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

St. Stephen's Leadership and Staff

Interim Rector

Rev. Susanna DesMarais
revsusanna@gmail.com

Senior Warden (2023)

Tracy Babcock
TracyBabcock@me.com

Junior Warden (2024)

Don Young
dryoung@hamilton.net

Clerk (2023)

Kaeleigh Post
kaeleigh.post@icloud.com

Sue Cameron, Vestry (2024)
skcameron44@gmail.com

Raynette Martin, Vestry (2025)
raynette@charter.net

Dave Jepson, Vestry (2025)
dcjep24@gmail.com

Church Treasurer

Terry Babcock
terry.babcock@mccain.com

Parish Administrator

Lynne Nuss
lynne@ststephengi.org

Youth Director

Courtney Berg
courtney.levanders@hotmail.com

