

April 8, 2020

TIME SENSITIVE NEWS ALERTS

St.
Stephen's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Wimberley

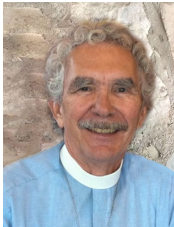
THE HUDDLE

APRIL 8, 2020



"Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome at St. Stephen's!"

[Visit our Website](#)



RECTOR MESSAGE
Fr. Phil Mason

EASTER & HOLY WEEK 2020

We will celebrate Holy Week and Easter in a new way this season through the help of Facebook and YouTube. Before each service, we will be emailing you the order of service and a link to join us in this new way to worship. We hope you will invite your friends, family, and neighbors to participate in the St. Stephen's Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday services that we are so looking forward to sharing with you later this week.

You will also be receiving an Easter letter from me in your physical mailbox at your home address. It contains my favorite Easter story. I wonder what your favorite Easter story is?

I warmly invite you to our Maundy Thursday candlelit service airing at 6:00 p.m. on April 9; our Good Friday service exploring "Were you there?" in prayer, song, and sermon at 12 noon on April 10; and our Easter Service on April 12 at 10:30 a.m. to hear "the rest of the story." For those that submitted Easter Lily dedications, look for these special names in the Easter Order of Service that will be emailed to you. I also look forward to reading these dedications during our virtual time together on Sunday.

I hope you will join us this week and participate in any way you would like and as often as you wish.



NEW! PHONE APPOINTMENTS WITH FR. PHIL

Although the church office is closed to the public, know that Fr. Phil is here for you and that you are always welcome to call the church office, 512-847-9956, or e-mail: office@ststeve.org, to schedule a 30 minute phone or video call with him. Fr. Phil would very much like to know what's on your mind.

LEADERSHIP & OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nancy Cooke-Jenkins, Senior Warden



SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE



This past week, your Search Committee received a proposal from the Diocese which would allow them to continue the search during this time of quarantine. It would change some of the requirements in order to level the playing field with states having no quarantine in place. The personal visitations would still take place, only electronically. Essentially, this would mean hiring a new Rector, sight unseen, so to speak. There would be no in-person visiting his/her church to hear a sermon and no personal visit here to have a tour of our facilities. This would all be done electronically.

After prayerful consideration on the part of your Vestry and Search Committee, it was decided unanimously that this was not the avenue we wanted to take. We feel that this hiring is too important not to follow the normal procedure of meeting and vetting a prospect in person. Therefore, we will continue to wait until the quarantine has been lifted before the committee resumes its work.

We are a church family, and as in all families, we want to offer what is the greatest good for all involved. Please continue to pray with us and support the plan that has been put in place. We feel that the person who feels called to serve us will wait with us.

Faithfully yours,

Darelle Jordan, Search Committee Co-Chair
Sharon East, Search Committee Co-Chair
Nancy Jenkins, Senior Warden

**EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPE
ARRIVING**

In the same mailing that you will be receiving this week with Fr. Phil's Easter Letter, you will also find a special Easter Offering envelope and a stamped return envelope enclosed. Please consider



using the envelopes to make a donation to *St. Stephen's Episcopal Church*.

On Palm Sunday, we held our first virtual Holy Eucharist and now **on Easter Sunday, April 12, we will experience another first together by passing the plate virtually**. Of course, you are also welcome to mail your offering early, too. If you would rather give electronically, you may do so using tithe.ly.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity of time, talent, and gifts.



PRAY FROM HOME

[MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 9, airing at 6:00 p.m. CDT \(clickable link\)](#)

Use your favorite mobile device, desktop, or smart tv to enjoy a candlelit scene in the Chapel at 6:00 p.m., April 9, with conversations about servant leaders and the tradition of foot washing.

[GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10, airing at 12 noon CDT \(clickable link\)](#)

Tune in at 12 noon on your smart device to explore, "Were you there?" in prayer, song, and sermon at 12 noon, April 10.

[EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12, live-streamed at 10:30 a.m. CDT \(clickable link\)](#)

Grab your preferred smart device and settle in to join Fr. Phil, Anne Jones, and Allen Hennig on Facebook or YouTube for Easter Service and hear "the rest of the story" from where we left off on Palm Sunday.

MINISTRY HAPPENINGS



YOGA

[Remote Chair and Gentle Yoga Videos by Carla Daws](#)



New packets with lessons that include five activities along with



A packet similar to those mailed to the children was emailed to all

art supplies, prayer, and song have been mailed via the U.S. Post Office. These activities will take families from Good Friday through Easter. Contact: [Elisa Webster](#) if you do not receive yours by Thursday, April 9, 2020.

YOUTH enrolled in Sunday School. If you know another Youth that would like to receive these electronic packets, send Elisa their email address. Contact: [Elisa Webster](#) if you do not receive yours by Thursday, April 9, 2020.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church | 512-847-9956 |
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STAY CONNECTED

