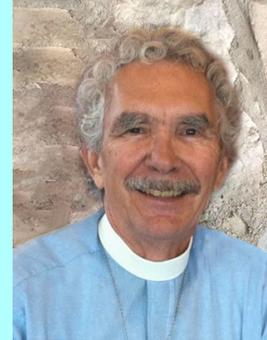


LETTER FROM THE RECTOR:
The Liturgy's *Symphony*
Fr. Phil Mason



My Dear Friends,

Once when I was describing our liturgy to a musician who would be our guest organist, I used an analogy that I thought I might pass on to you. I told her that the liturgy is like a symphony. It has different movements, some are sung and some are said and all are a part of a whole worship experience. I explained the importance of the organ and choir being on cue as the service unfolds like a symphony, movement by movement. The "*Alleluias!*" after the Gospel reading, the fraction anthem after the breaking of the bread are examples of musical parts that fit with spoken parts to make the symphony seamless.



Allow me to expand a little on how music and worship function together in the Episcopal liturgy. The worship each Sunday has a theme. My liturgy professor likes to call it "the liturgical thrust of the day." The theme is first determined by the church season: Christmas, Lent, Easter Pentecost, etc. The theme for any particular Sunday is determined by the "Common Lectionary" of scripture readings used by the Church. The first hint of the day is the processional hymn. If we hear: "Now that daylight fills the sky" (Hymn 3), we might guess that we are in the season of Epiphany and today would be about God being revealed to us. The next solid clue would be the Collect of the Day. If we listen carefully to this prayer, we should be able to guess a little more closely what this day is about. The Collect of the Day might begin, "O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing." Therefore, we know that today is going to be about love and, since we notice that it is Epiphany, how that love is revealed to us. Sure enough, the first reading is from Leviticus and teaches us how to treat each other with respect. The psalm fits in, too, and sometimes we might choose to sing it for the psalms were, after all, written for singing. Moving along, then, we identify that the second reading is from First Corinthians. Paul is teaching about

Christ's love. Then comes the sequence hymn before the Gospel, so how about, "Love Divine, All Love's Excelling" (Hymn 657)? This likely would be followed by a reading from Matthew, "love your neighbor, love your enemy," setting up the sermon next about how we might fit God's love into our lives. At the offertory then we sing, "Lord, make us servants of your peace" (Hymn 593). During communion we find ourselves singing the beautiful prayer, "Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love" (Hymn 602). And, at the recessional, we are encouraged to take this message of love out into the world. "Go forth for God; go to the world in peace" (Hymn 347).

So, there we have it: prayers, music, and liturgy all expressing one theme as with a symphony, bearing a message for the Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany, liturgical year.

Since the hymns we sing in church on any given Sunday are a part of the message, it is important to be aware of the message in their text as well as the tune to which they are set. This is the reason that we usually sing an entire hymn, rather than cut it short for the sake of brevity. We do not want to cut the message short. This is the reason that the hymn selection sometimes is *not so uplifting*. In that case, it was probably Lent or Good Friday and that was the mood of the day. Hang on, though, Easter is coming! We learn that the planned music is more than for our enjoyment; it is an integral part of the message. We always attempt our best to choose music that will appeal to everyone (try that sometime!), but we also try very hard to select the music that will be a fitting part of the symphony.

*Peace and Love to All,
Phil+*

SENIOR WARDEN NEWS

[Nancy Cooke-Jenkins](#)

Where to begin?! Two weeks of whirlwind activity, and it's all good.

PARISH PROFILE: Our Parish Profile has been completed and is now available on our website, <https://www.ststeve.org/parish-profile>. Archdeacon Mike Besson and his assistant, Rachel Wilcox, created an outstanding document about us, our church life, and the ambience in our Texas Hill Country jewel of Wimberley. It will now be sent to websites advertising our search for a new rector. Responses will go to the diocese for consideration and future inclusion on the slate for the search committee's further review.



Speaking of the Parish Profile, definitely do yourself a favor and [read the Profile](#)--it's bound to make you feel proud.

FIRST FRUITS: Our second annual "First Fruits" has been a tremendous success. The effort, headed by Carolyn Galle and her team extraordinaire, adeptly gathered together THE BEST to participate in this year's outstanding event. Clint Carter catered a four course gourmet menu with gluten free options along with expertly paired wine tastings. Mark Anthony Cruz, classical guitarist, once again provided the beautiful music. This year's silent auction provided a wide variety of items--something to peak

the interest of all--with every item soon gleefully claimed. Carroll Dolezal and her merry band of helpers magically transformed McArthur Hall into a countryside vineyard, a not-to-be-missed venue of food and festivities. The mural that Carroll painted continues to be displayed in McArthur Hall, and it is certainly a treat to the eyes and spirit to check out again and again. Truly spectacular! Thank you to all involved and the guests who attended and made it all possible.

PHOTO DIRECTORY: The first sessions of picture taking for the new church directory has been well attended indeed thanks to the efficiency and organization by Judy Holmes and team. In fact, it has been so well received, that we have added two additional dates for those yet to be photographed. If you have not had your portraits done, please visit the photo appointment [website](#) and choose an available November slot. Remember, you will receive a free 8 x 10 portrait and there is no other charge to you unless you order more. Need Christmas gifts?

ACTIVE SHOOTER PRESENTATION: While the topic of Active Shooter Training may not seem to fit under the category of "good news," it is none-the-less, necessary in this day and age and the knowledge and skilled planning that this kind of training provides, does give us good preparedness. To this end, October's Great Generations Gathering hosted Constable Darrell Ayres, who spoke on "Active Shooters in our Churches." He gave us food for thought on what it takes to protect ourselves from such an event, were it to unfold. Although some of the methods described are distasteful to some, this kind of situation would not only be distasteful, it would be incomprehensible to all of us. Armed with this kind of knowledge, we have more to weigh and consider, and we will continue to seek ways to best protect our campus, our school, and ourselves from harm.



With the holidays rapidly approaching, let us remember those less fortunate than we, and let us seek meaningful methods to lend a helping hand. Be on the look out for such opportunities coming your way soon, like the St. Stephen's Santa Ministry, for instance.

Blessings,
Nancy

"If you can't change it, laugh at it"
- Erma Bombeck



FIRST FRUITS RESOUNDING SUCCESS



A whiff of Tuscany was in the air in St. Stephen's McArthur Hall on Sunday, October 13 as we kicked off the second First Fruits Wine & Dinner Pairing fundraiser. Close to 100 people, adults and children, attended this special annual event. There were too many favorite moments to count. Was yours the photo mirror? The four course meal with wine pairings? Winning your coveted silent auction item? Or, the fabulous mural and themed decorations transforming our humble McArthur Hall into a vineyard? For more snapshots of First Fruits, see the "In the Life of SSEC" in this newsletter, the [church website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).



BONUS PHOTOS!

Whether you took advantage of the photo booth or not, you can view the MirrorMe photos of all that did at:

<https://altared.smugmug.com/10-13-19-St-Stevens/n-QVxkjH/>



PAID POSITIONS AT ST. STEPHEN'S

HELP WANTED: NURSERY ATTENDANTS

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Wimberley, Texas is seeking part-time help in their Church Nursery. Nursery Attendants will work under the Nursery Manager and report to the Parish Administrator. Responsibilities include: general childcare, snack and craft preparation, light cleaning, supply inventory, and other duties as assigned. Sunday work hours are 7:45 a.m. until

12:00 noon with the occasional Wednesday night and Saturday morning, depending on scheduled special events and childcare needs. Ideal candidate should have at least 1-2 years experience working with infants through preschool age, the ability to lift up to 20 pounds unassisted, and be at least 16 years old. The Nursery program is an integral piece in the overall Sunday School program. Safeguarding training will be provided and a background check will be conducted. If interested, please send resume to: Jeannetta Watson, jwatson@ststeve.org.



FRIDAY COFFEE & TEA FRIENDS

Friday, October 18 & November 1, 9:30 a.m.

OFFSITE: Brookshire Brothers

The Friday Coffee and Tea Friends meet at Brookshire Brothers deli every first and third Friday, except holidays, beginning at 9:30 a.m. All women are invited to share this time of fellowship and conversation.

For more information, contact: [Ann Robertson](#) or [Marsha Acoc](#).



NEXT MEETING

Sunday, October 20, 12 noon

Meeting Room 1

For His Sake, the Daughters of the King will gather for prayer and discernment this Sunday, October 20 at 12 noon in Meeting Room 1. This ministry is led by new DOK leader, Sue Wright. We would also like acknowledge and thank out-going DOK ministry leader, Dale Cegielski, for her leadership.

We welcome you to be with us!

For more information, contact: Sue Wright, wright5212@sbcglobal.net.



NEXT MEETING: RIVER FUN

Sunday, October 20, 5:00 p.m.

Offsite: Cline's Home



The JH/SH Youth will meet at the Cline's home for some river fun this Sunday, October 20 at 5:00 p.m. Please e-mail Jeannetta Watson, jwatson@ststeve.org for directions and to answer any questions.

TED Talkers
Wednesday, October 23 @ 12 noon
McArthur Hall

Please join us Wednesday, October 23 at 12 noon for the viewing of "The human skills we need in an unpredictable world" by Margaret Heffernan.



Every second and fourth Wednesday of the month members, guests, and the general public are invited to St. Stephen's Church to enjoy an open, facilitated discussion of various, timely topics. During November and December, however, we will meet once a month. On TED Talkers days, we watch a pre-selected TED Talk video at 12 noon, eat our brown bag lunch, and discuss the topic in a non-judgmental setting with coffee and water provided. It all wraps up by 1:00 p.m. You are encouraged to bring a friend, neighbor, and join in the next sure-to-be lively, mind-stimulating discussion. We'll save you a seat!

TED TALKERS
FALL 2019 SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 23, 2019

NOVEMBER 13, 2019

For more information, contact: Jo Bourke, jobourke33@gmail.com, 512-468-1267.



OCTOBER DEER CREEK SERVICE
Wednesday, October 23 @ 3:00 p.m.

OFFSITE: Deer Creek Wimberley, 555 FM 3237, Wimberley

On Wednesday, October 23rd at 3:00 p.m., SSEC's Community of Hope will share a

Holy Eucharist service with the residents as part of the regular 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month ministry. **All are welcome to attend.**

For more information, contact: Sharon East, sharoneast@verizon.net and Connie Maverick, joemaverick@verizon.net.

FAMILY CELEBRATION SERVICE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2019

10:30 a.m.

St. Stephen's Church

For Adults, Teens, Children, Everyone!

FAMILY CELEBRATION SUNDAY services are held at St. Stephen's Church on the last Sunday of the month during the school year, excluding November and December. Children participate fully and the sermon is adapted for all ages. The St. Stephen's students and families are especially invited to join us on Sunday, October 27th at 10:30 a.m. in the church sanctuary. After the service, follow the tantalizing smell of breakfast tacos to McArthur Hall for the Youth's monthly fundraiser.

FREE child care for infants & toddlers



Church youth
TANTILIZING BREAKFAST TACOS
Fundraiser



MELODYMAKERS lead our music and worship



SUBMIT NAMES BY:
SUNDAY, October 27, 2019
(All Saints Sunday: November 3)

It is now time to submit names to be read on All Saints Sunday, November 3. To do this, call the church office, 512-847-9956, or e-mail Jeannetta Watson, jwatson@ststeve.org. All names that were submitted by or before Sunday, October 27, will be read at the annual All Saints Sunday service on November 3rd during the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services.

For more information, contact: Jeannetta Watson, jwatson@ststeve.org.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2019

8:30 a.m. until 12 noon

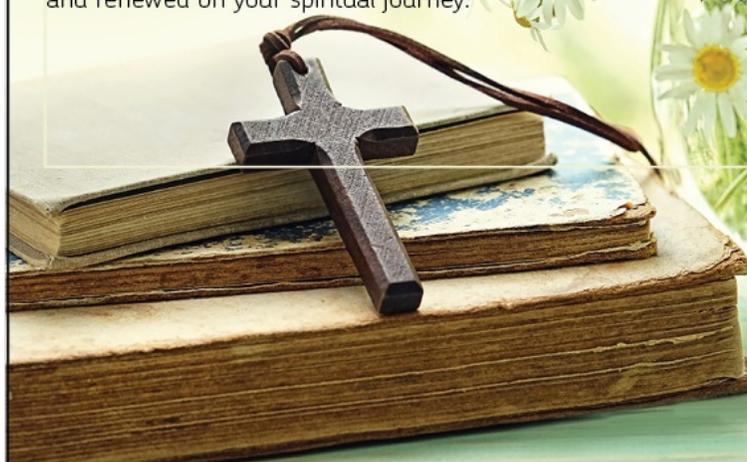
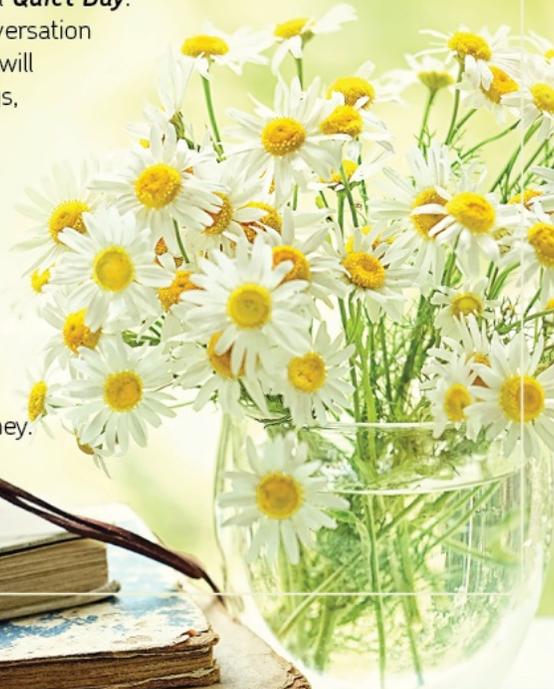
Quiet Day

**Sponsored by St. Stephen's
Community of Hope**

If a slice of serene silence and contemplation appeals to you in the midst of your busy life, please come to our annual **Quiet Day**.

Following breakfast snacks and conversation from 8:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m., we will experience silence in various settings, with thought-provoking materials or in the silence of your choice from 9:00 until 11:30 a.m.

Private time with Fr. Phil will be available throughout the morning. A brief Celtic worship at 11:30 a.m. will conclude the session and send you on your way feeling refreshed and renewed on your spiritual journey.



St. Stephen's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Wimberley

For more information, contact: Connie Maverick, joemaverick@verizon.net or Sharon East, sharoneast@verizon.net. No fees nor registration required.



REMEMBER TO BOOK YOUR DIRECTORY PHOTO SESSION

DID YOU MAKE YOUR RESERVATION? Our first two rounds of photo sessions were Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5. Lifetouch, the company taking our photos for the church directory, did open up an additional round of photo appointments in November for our group. Check the [on-line reservations](#) to see what's currently available. All photo sessions will be in McArthur Hall.

Remember to keep your clothing simple. If coordinating attire, consider solid or subtle patterns.

PHOTO SESSIONS:

Thursday, November 21, 2:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Friday, November 22, 1:00 - 7:50 p.m.

For more information, contact: Judy Holmes, judyholmes1249@gmail.com.



**Prayer
Shawl**
ministry

NEW MEETING TIME FOR PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Thursdays: 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Meeting Room 2

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will now meet most Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. in Meeting Room 2.

Regardless of your needlecraft skills, we would love to have you join us in this worthwhile ministry. *Beginner or Pro...* we don't care. If you are just learning to knit or crochet, we will help you through the rough patches. And if you are a pro, we appreciate your expertise and welcome your help in teaching those of us with less experience. Shawls are typically made by our ministry for those that are having a difficult time.

For more information, contact: Lynne Huston, hustonlynne@gmail.com.

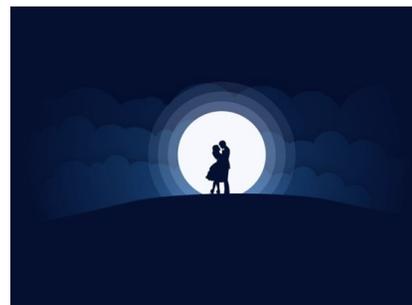
MOONGLOW BIG BAND DANCE

Saturday, November 2, 2019 @ 5 p.m.

OFFSITE: Downtown Wimberley, BackStage venue

The Wimberley Valley Big Band is excited to present a whole lot of great big band music in a FREE dance, a *MoonGlow*

Big Band Dance, in downtown Wimberley on Saturday, November 2. This ticketed but free dance will be held at the Back Stage venue, located behind the burned-out Cypress Creek Cafe building. The gates will open at 4:30 p.m. and the music will go from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. Your donations make these events possible. As a local non-profit dedicated to providing great music to the Wimberley Valley community, the Wimberley Valley Big Band is always appreciative of our sponsors and donors.



Eventbrite tickets:



For more information, contact "the jazziest small town big band in Texas."

wimberleyvalleybigband.org.

TWO-STEP FOR TESP



Sunday, Nov 10
5:30-9pm
Montesino Ranch
Wimberley, TX

FIRST WE DANCE.

THEN WE FIGHT FOR OUR GROUNDWATER.

Message from Jim Blackburn, TESPA Board President

"Never before have our rural groundwater resources, our springs and rivers, our property rights, and our way of life been in such jeopardy. Increased growth in Hays County is placing pressure on our groundwater resources, and there will be more and more attempts to pump tremendous volumes of groundwater from the Trinity Aquifer in Hays County. Unfortunately, the Electro Purification project is just the beginning.

Now is the time to fight and to send a message that groundwater in Hays County must be protected. Now is the time to fund TESP's efforts to stop large-scale groundwater projects that threaten our groundwater, to advocate for sustainable management of the Trinity Aquifer, and to represent the collective voice of landowners who want to ensure that their groundwater is conserved."

Join the Fight! Be a Sponsor.



KNOCK OUT | \$10,000

- Ten tickets to event
- Reserved table for 10
- Digital ad on TESP website for 1 year
- Logo or name on new TESP swag
- Recognition on TESPTexas.org event page
- Shout-Out Facebook post
- Signage and recognition at event

FACE JAB | \$5,000

- Six tickets to event
- Logo or name on new TESP swag
- Recognition on TESPTexas.org event page
- Shout-Out Facebook post
- Signage and recognition at event

LEFT HOOK | \$2,500

- Four tickets to event
- Logo or name on new TESP swag
- Recognition on TESPTexas.org event page
- Shout-Out Facebook post
- Signage and recognition at event

UPPERCUT | \$1,000

- Two tickets to event
- Recognition on TESPTexas.org event page
- Signage and recognition at event

STRAIGHT RIGHT | \$500

- One ticket to event
- Recognition on TESPTexas.org event page
- Signage and recognition at event

RINGSIDE (general admission) | \$125 person

Want to talk sponsorship? Contact: [Vanessa Puig-Williams](#) or [Karen Ford](#)



Wednesdays @ 10 a.m. in the Chapel

The Holy Eucharist Worship and Healing Service has returned. Please note that the day of the week is now on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel.



EVENING EUCHARIST & PRAYER

featuring the Half-time Band

Wednesdays @ 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

All are welcome to join us in the Chapel on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. for eucharist, prayer, and contemporary music.

Community of Hope Ministry

HOPE
LIVES

Do you need someone...

*To listen, without judgment, to what is weighing on your heart?
To recognize your needs and respect your rights to your feelings?
To honor any conversation with complete confidentiality?
To support you as you take steps of change on your journey?
To just walk with you and let you be you.*

Each one of us, at some point in our lives, could use a "companion" to walk with us during the challenges of our journeys. A Community of Hope Lay Chaplain is someone who cares about you, will not promise miracles, will not decide for you what you should do, will not take steps for you, and will not rescue you. He or she will be available to you, support you, pray for you, and assure you that you are God's beloved. Please, if you are walking alone, invite one to join you on your path.

For more information during OCTOBER, contact:

Nancy Jenkins, nmjenkins@austin.rr.com or Kristen Schmidt, tk Schmidt@anvilcom.com



UPCOMING SUBMISSION DEADLINES

The eNEWS is published on Fridays generally every two weeks and delivered straight to your e-mail's in-box. If you have an e-mail address update, please make sure to send these to the church office.

With more than 20 ministries and groups here at St. Stephen's Church, we've got a lot happening! Help us cover your event by submitting articles, photos, and artwork

to: Communications Manager, [Jackie McFadden](#).

UPCOMING DEADLINES:
12 noon Wednesday or earlier

October 30
November 13



SAVE THE DATES

FRI, OCT 18 & NOV 1

Friday Coffee & Tea Friends (OFFSITE), 9:30 a.m., Brookshire Brothers Deli

SUN, OCT 20

Daughters of the King Meeting, 12 noon, Meeting Room 1

SUN, OCT 20

Youth Meeting (OFFSITE), 5:00 p.m., Cline's Home for River Fun

WED, OCT 23

TED Talkers, 12 noon, McArthur Hall

WED, OCT 23

Deer Creek Eucharist (OFFSITE), 3:00 p.m., Deer Creek Wimberley, 555 FM 3237

SUN, OCT 27

Family Celebration Service followed by Youth Taco Fundraiser, 10:30 a.m., Church

MON, NOV 1

Vestry Meeting, 5:00 p.m., Meeting Room 1

SAT, NOV 2

Quiet Day, 8:30 a.m., meet in McArthur Hall

SUN, NOV 3

All Saints Day Sunday

LIFE AT SSEC

Ahhh. A night in the vineyards of Tuscany without even leaving our hometown of Wimberley. There were big winners in the silent auction, funny photo booth moments, most excellent wine pairings, and mystery desserts for the children. THANK YOU to everyone for a truly fabulous event and for the more than \$10 K raised for building and grounds upgrades and repairs to our cherished campus.



Are you on Facebook? St. Stephen's is!

[Click here](#) to visit our Facebook page

and don't forget to **LIKE** and **SHARE** us!

Please contact the church office at 512.847.9956, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon Fridays if you have any questions.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)