



ST. STEPHEN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
3900 MECHANICSVILLE RD.
WHITEHALL, PA 18052-3347
610-435-3901

STEVE-ADORE



2011

"Vision-directed, People-oriented, Gospel-disciplined"



October is National Clergy Appreciation Month. Please let our priests know how much we appreciate them and all they do for God, for St. Stephen's and for you and your family. Why not express your feelings in a personal note or card. Everyone likes to be appreciated, even our clergy!

Blessing of the Animals!



Our annual "Blessing of the Animals" service in honor of St. Francis of Assisi will be held on Wednesday, October 5th. Bring your animals to the church at 7:00 p.m. and join in the fun. We welcome dogs, cats, horses, gerbils, mice, birds, etc.

Please have them in cages or on a leash!



ALL SOULS DAY: Please find enclosed an insert for your convenience to remember your loved one(s) on All Souls Day. Please mail to the church office or place in the offering plate no later than Sunday, October 23rd. A Requiem Eucharist will be held on Wednesday, November 2nd at 12 noon.

THE STEVE-ADORE is a Publication of ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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EVER ONWARD!

The director John Ford once said that the secret to making a successful Western was to open the film in a way guaranteed to capture the audience's attention and the best way to do that was to have a stranger ride into town. It sets the stage. The quiet, peaceful life of the town is about to be disturbed by this stranger. The townspeople don't know who he is, where he's come from or where he's going and above all they don't know why he stopped in their town.

If you've seen a lot of Westerns you know that most characters fall into two broad categories: pioneers and settlers. The pioneers are like the stranger who rides into town. Their home is usually a horse or a wagon and they always seem to be on the move.

And then there are the settlers. They're pioneers who've stopped moving and have fixed addresses. They've put down roots, built homes and businesses, and surrounded themselves with familiar faces. They like the settled life and the security that goes with it. They never stay away too long from home. And of course, all the authority figures—the mayor, banker, sheriff, etc.—are settlers.

Well, long before the Israelites settled down as farmers and city-dwellers, they were pioneers. Shepherds, living in tents, moving from place to place, making townsfolk, like those of Jericho, very nervous. But, by the time of Christ, society had settled down as urban and agricultural and the people who looked after flocks were not looked upon with much favour.

Often illiterate and mentally challenged, shepherds could not observe the demands of ceremonial law and were regarded as religiously unclean. They were even banned from giving evidence in court. Oh, the shepherd had a big place in folklore but, like the gunfighter and bounty hunter of the American West, he had no place in “modern” society.

So when Jesus speaks of himself as a shepherd, he is evoking an image from Israel's past and allying himself with the outcasts of Israel's present. He is the wandering prophet who has been rejected by his own town of Nazareth. He is always on the move and when he arrives somewhere he invariably makes the authorities nervous.



Throughout his life, Jesus sought out the good, the bad, and the ugly. To him, everybody had value and there's nothing he wouldn't do to prove it. He takes on his opponents face to face. He names the wolves in sheep's clothing. He warns his followers about the rough journey ahead. He endures isolation, insult and threats. And he does, indeed, lay down his life for his sheep.

Yet even in death, when the authorities think they've finally nailed him down - or up, as the case may be - even the borrowed tomb he's put in is but a temporary resting place. The discarded grave clothes are God's sign of contempt for any kind of lying down, even that brought on by death.

We often speak of the Christian life as a journey and, as with any journey, there are challenges and adventures along the road. Some people, though, decide to avoid the challenges by ending the journey and, as a result, they also end the adventures and, without realizing it, the blessings. A journey demands movement and change. The greatest danger we face as Christians is when we stop moving and become o.k. with that.

In the West, the settlers are usually good people—honest, decent folk—but they've stopped moving and even become paralyzed. Sometimes it's because they're afraid of a town boss, or because they've become complacent, or because they harbour a dark secret. Whatever it is, it has ended their journey. It prevents them from growing and developing. And it is the pioneer character who shakes them out of this.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He's also the tall dark stranger. And he challenges us to pick up where we left off and start moving again. Christians, you see, are not called to the quiet, predictable, settled life. We're called to the challenging, adventurous, pioneering life - the life of the shepherd. Because we're surrounded by wandering sheep and the only way they'll come into the fold is if we go and round them up.

They'll never find their way in on their own.

Fr. Frank+

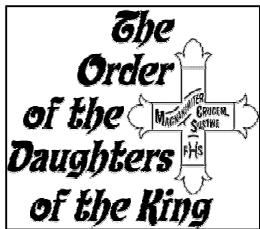




Christmas Craft Show is coming!!

The dates this year are Friday, December 2nd and Saturday, December 3rd. Crafts are needed for our craft table and donations for the kitchen would be greatly appreciated! Cookie bakers, pierogie pinchers, ticket sellers, table movers, car parkers, plus lots more! There is a place for everyone. If you are willing to help, or are able to donate your handmade crafts to our donation table, please contact Carol Siegmund at 610-799-2253. More details will follow.

ADVENT WREATH MAKING



It's probably a little early to be thinking of Advent and Christmas, but, so you can save the date, we want to start advertising now. The Daughters of the King will be sponsoring a family Advent wreath making event on Sunday, November 20th immediately following the 10:30 mass. This is your opportunity to make a wreath for your home for the Advent season. The first Sunday of Advent will be the following week – November 27th.

Everything necessary to make your wreath will be supplied but it would be helpful to bring gardening gloves and clippers with you. Closer to the time there will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex just so we can get an idea of how many are coming. We will also have a prayer leaflet available to aid in your spiritual preparation to celebrate Christ's birth.

Hands-on Help!



The Boy Scouts are having a food drive and will be delivering food to our Food Pantry on Saturday, November 12th at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. We will be in need of several volunteers to help unload, weigh, sort and put away the items collected. If you are able to help, please contact Doreen Wagner at 610-432-0819.

Thank in you advance for your hands-on help!



Reflections from your Sr. Warden

Reflections from your Sr. Warden

To my fellow parishioners—I want to share this devotional from Forward Day by Day from Thursday, September 15th. Think of St. Stephen’s and hopefully you will feel refreshed, as I did. Enjoy!

I Corinthians 2:14—3:15. For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building.

Throughout my years as a parish priest, I enjoyed thinking, on a Sunday morning, of all the willing and skilled hands that made our time of worship, learning, and fellowship possible.

From the time I got out of my car and walked across a manicured lawn, usually past trimmed shrubs and flowers, I could think of the people who had done this work. When I opened a door already unlocked and walked into a building already lighted and heated or cooled, and smelled fresh coffee, I thought of others. During the morning, I encountered impeccable altar linen and gleaming communion vessels, heard glorious music, heard scripture read and prayers led, visited with eager children from well-taught Sunday school classes, and listened to announcements of opportunities to learn and serve and enjoy each other throughout the week. Sometimes our work was to visit the sick, bury the dead, or help with a wedding.

All happened because of many skilled hands and loving hearts freely given for the good of the whole. People were served. God was glorified because many worked together. They still do.

-Tom Steckel



OCTOBER 2011

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

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610-264-2149
 Mr. Tom Steckel, Senior Warden
 610-216-6916
 Judy Kuntz, Parish Secretary

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

2) **Pentecost 16**
 8:00 am Said Eucharist
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Sung Eucharist

3) 6:00 pm Food Pantry
 (by appointment only)

4) 9:30 am Healing Eucharist
 5:30 pm Weight Watchers
 (Parish Hall)
 7:00 pm Sch. Board Meeting

5) 6:30 pm Scouts
 7:00 pm Blessing of
 the animals

6) 7) 8)

**Diocesan Convention
 Nativity—Bethlehem**

MON.—FRI. ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOOL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

9) **Pentecost 17**
 8:00 am Said Eucharist
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Sung Eucharist
 Noon JYG

10) 6:00 pm Food Pantry
 (by appointment only)

11) 9:30 am Healing Eucharist followed by O.S.L. Mtg.
 5:30 pm Weight Watchers
 (Parish Hall)
 7:00 pm Property Mtg.

12) 6:30 pm Scouts

13) 14) 15)

16) **Pentecost 18**
 8:00 am Said Eucharist
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Sung Eucharist
 Noon D.O.K. Meeting

17) 6:00 pm Food Pantry
 (by appointment only)
 6:30 Bethlehem Music
 Group in the Parish Hall

18) 9:30 am Healing Eucharist
 5:30 pm Weight Watchers
 (Parish Hall)
 7:00 pm Vestry Mtg.

19) 6:30 pm Scouts
 2:00 pm Clergy
 Bible Study

20) 21) 22)

23) **Pentecost 19**
 8:00 am Said Eucharist
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Sung Eucharist
 Noon JYG

24) 6:00 pm Food Pantry
 (by appointment only)

25) 9:30 am Healing Eucharist
 5:30 pm Weight Watchers
 (Parish Hall)

26) 6:30 pm Scouts

27) 28) 29)

30) **Pentecost 20**
 8:00 am Said Eucharist
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Sung Eucharist

31) No Food Pantry
 5th Monday



For the Month of **OCTOBER** the Whitehall Food Pantry

is asking for your help with the following items:

- Coffee (Regular and Decaf) - Ice Tea mix or Hot Cocoa
- Coffee-mate (powdered)
- Dry Milk
- Sugar (Bags, boxed or packets)
- Canned Meats (Ham, Spam, Turkey, Chicken, etc.) or Beef Stew
- Jelly
- Canned Vegetables: carrots, beets, mixed veggies, asparagus, spinach
- Boxed Potatoes (Instant Mashed, Scalloped, etc.)
- Hamburger Helper, Chicken Helper, or Tuna Helper
- Tomato Paste, sauce, puree, stewed, or whole
- Dish liquid
- Gravy (turkey)
- Stuffing Mix (Turkey Stove Top)
- Pumpkin Pie Mix
- Cranberry Sauce

To honor St. Francis of Assisi, we will also be collecting food for the pets of our clients during October!



This Ministry would not be what it is today if it weren't for your continued dedication and support - so once again...we say Thank you!!!

Doreen Wagner/Coordinator
Whitehall Food Pantry
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Also, we will once again be filling Thanksgiving baskets this year. Six local churches will be working with us to fill these baskets, and each church will be assigned a particular item to donate (more information to follow). We are asking each church to either bring in grocery store register tapes for the FREE turkeys or provide donations of frozen turkeys.

NURSERY SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

The school year is off to a wonderful start! We have close to 200 students enrolled in the various half day pre-school classes and in our full day kindergarten class.

We are pleased to be selling the “Save Around Greater Lehigh Valley” along with the “Kid’s Stuff” coupon books. If you are interested in purchasing either or both books please contact the school office.

The first week in October, we will be holding our Scholastic Book Fair. It is a great time to get an early start on your Christmas shopping by purchasing books for gifts. The book fair will run each day, October 5,6, and 7 from 11 AM – 1 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

There are limited openings in the 4 and 5 Day (PM only) classes. The afternoon sessions run from 12:30 PM – 3:00 PM. If you know anyone who might be interested in securing one of the aforementioned classes for their child, please have them call the school office at: 610-435-4260.

We continue to save items throughout the year:

- Soda Tabs
- Boxtops
- Redner’s “Save-a-tapes”

We hope you have a **SPLENDID FALL!**





OUR LIMITED MOBILITY SAINTS

DONALD & DORIS BOEHRER, SR., 2303 S. 11th St., Allentown, PA 18103

VERNA CANOVA, Luthercrest, 800 Hausman Rd. #475, Allentown, PA 18104

HELEN CHAMBERLAIN, Luthercrest, 800 Hausman Rd. # 302,
Allentown, PA 18104

TINA DECKER, 936 N. 33d St. Allentown, PA 18104

CHARLES & MURIEL HARMANY, Moravian Square Hall,
175 W. North St. #1211, Nazareth, PA 18064

JACK JONES, Fellowship Manor 3000 Fellowship Drive, #G54,
Whitehall, PA 18052

MARY LEE, Luthercrest, 800 Hausman Rd. #303, Allentown, PA 18104

NADINE SCHOONOVER, 2021 Bally Drive, Northampton, PA 18067

ANNE SISKKA, 3877 Rosewood Lane, Whitehall, PA 18052

DOLLY SMITH, Above & Beyond, 2232 SW 29th St. #231, Allentown, PA 18103

PLEASE VISIT AND/OR SEND A CARD OF CHEER!



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| - Robert C. Gehres II, USA | - Matthew Scheib, USMC |
| - Robert C. Gehres III, PAARNG | - Stephen Vanko, USMC |
| - Seth Sassaman, USMC | - Bruce Wentworth, III, USMC |

THERE ARE FIVE THINGS
THAT YOU CANNOT RECOVER IN LIFE

1. The Stoneafter it's thrown
2. The Wordafter it's said
3. The Occasion.....after it's missed
4. The Timeafter it's gone
5. A Personafter they die

Feasibility Study Up-date

We wish to thank parishioners who participated in the surveys regarding proposed remodeling and construction at St. Stephens. Our consultant indicated to us we had many thoughtful and detailed responses. His evaluation is nearing completion at press time and should have reached us before you read this report.

Your Finance Committee

* * * * *

WEEKLY REPORT	Aug. 28 <i>(Hurricane Irene)</i>	Sept. 4	Sept. 11	Sept. 18
8:00 am Attendance	4	24	32	22
10:30 am Attendance	14	37	57	52
Plate and Pledge	\$446.00	\$1,571.00	\$3,522.00	\$1,875.00



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

On November 6th (All Saints' Sunday), the Sunday School will, again, be making the *Operation Christmas Child* shoeboxes.

Last year, we received enough support from you to make and ship 35 boxes. Amazing! Fantastic! So, this year, we've set a goal for 50 boxes? We no longer need boxes but we do need the following:

TOYS: Small cars, balls, dolls, small stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yo's, jump ropes, small Etch-A-Sketch, Slinky, and toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries).

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons and markers, rubber stamps and ink pads, writing pads, solar calculators, colouring books.

PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs and brushes, soap (in a plastic bag), wash cloths.

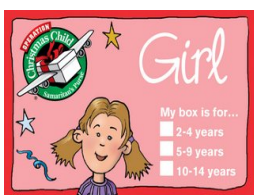
ASSORTED: Hard candies and lollipops (in plastic bags), t-shirts, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, watches, flashlights (remember the extra batteries).

WRAPPING paper and volunteers to help wrap the boxes.

In accordance with Federal regulations and the philosophy of the organization, there are certain items which *CANNOT BE SENT*: Toy soldiers and guns, knives, chocolates and soft candies, liquids or lotions, medications, aerosol cans, and *ANYTHING USED OR DAMAGED*.

The Missions/Outreach Committee has, once again, committed to pay for the shipping of the boxes. A big "THANK YOU" to them and to YOU for your support.

Sue St.Amour



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The November Steve-Adore deadline will be Tuesday, October 15th!



Happy Birthday

10/01 Norman Farrell	10/24 Barry McClaskey
10/02 Joseph Ebner	10/25 Helen Chamberlain
10/03 Germaine Randis	Robert Gehres
10/12 Richard Wilson	Ernest Laudenslager
10/13 JoAnn Fedor	10/28 Jennifer Yadlosky
10/15 Patrick Rivers, Jr.	10/31 Jack Jones
10/19 Margaret Schlauch	Evelyn Unangst
10/20 Mary James	



Happy Anniversary!

10/02 Joseph & Joanne Kratzer
10/19 Richard & Margaret Schlauch
10/30 Timothy & Donna Madara