

The St. Stephen's Senior Newsletter

AUGUST, SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2018

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church — Edina, Minnesota

Dear beloved senior members of St. Stephen's!

The proverb "Nothing is certain except death and taxes" is often attributed (correctly or incorrectly) to Benjamin Franklin. But lately, we at St. Stephen's could amend that phrase to read, "Nothing is certain except death and taxes *and* **change.**"

We are delighted in this issue to introduce two new members of staff and one not entirely new member of staff.

But we also bid farewell and Godspeed to Lisa Wiens Heinsohn, who has accepted a call to serve as Rector at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Linden Hills.

Lisa has been with us for two years and while we hate to see her leave, we are pleased for her and not surprised that others recognize her ability, her warmth and her dedication, and that she will be sharing her talents only a few miles away.

Change is not new to any of us. We know change in life can be difficult and challenging but it can also be exciting, uplifting and enriching.

Our church leadership will begin the process to call a new Assistant Rector immediately. Watch for exciting, uplifting and enriching *change*!

Connie Brekken, Editor
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Join us on Sunday, September 2, when we celebrate Lisa's ministry with us and wish her "farewell" at her last Sunday service.



CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE WHEN ...

St. Stephen's main number: 952-920-0595

You need pastoral care	Fr. Tom Cook
You wish to plan a funeral or memorial service	Deen Hubin
You want to add a name to the <i>Prayer Chain</i> or the <i>Prayers of the People</i>	Fr. Tom Cook
You or a loved one has been hospitalized	Fr. Tom Cook
You wish to be baptized	Fr. Tom Cook
You are interested in becoming a member	Fr. Tom Cook
You need Holy Communion in your home	Fr. Tom Cook
You wish to give flowers on the Sunday altar	Fr. Tom Cook
You have questions about your pledge	Deen Hubin
You have a new address, phone number or email	Nancy Wood
You have a new address, phone number or email	Deen Hubin

FR. TOM CELEBRATES 20 YEARS AS A PRIEST

Belated congratulation to our rector, Tom Cook, who was ordained a priest on February 10, 1998. We look forward to the next 20 years with you!



The Rev. Tom Cook, a graduate of the University of Florida and the School of Theology a the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., will join the Rev. David A. Powers in serving All Saints Episcopal Church. The Rt. Rev. Charles F. Duvall, bishop of the Episcopal diocess of the Central Gulf Coast, ordained Cook Tuesday.

IN REMEMBRANCE...

OF CURRENT MEMBERS

David Gigerich.

Duncan L. Gigerich, age 19. Died June 9, 2018. Memorial Service at St. Stephen's June 16. Son of Kristy Dirk and

AND OF THOSE WE KNEW AND LOVED

Michael M. DeMann, age 85. Died April 28, 2018. Private interment at Ft. Snelling Cemetery.

Brad Warner, age 61. Died May 11, 2018. Memorial Service at St. Stephen's May 26, 2018. Son of Sally and Henry Warner.

A HOUSEKEEPING MEMO FROM THE EDITORS

Did you know you can read the current and past issues of the Newsletter on the St. Stephen's website? If you have a computer and access to the Internet, go to **ststephens.com**, click on "**Grow**" (in the banner across the top), click on "**Adults**", then click on "**Senior Ministry**". There will you find all issues of the Senior Newsletter.

Question: How would you prefer to read the Newsletter?

At present we mail the Newsletter to about 175 households. If you like getting the paper version in the mail, do nothing.

But if you travel a lot or don't receive the Newsletter on a timely basis and like to read your mail on the computer, you can *unsubscribe* from the mailing list. You will be notified via email each time a new issue of the Newsletter is available on the St. Stephen's website. Just let the editors know or notify Deen Hubin in the church office and we will delete you from the mailing list.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

Thursday, September 20, 2018 12 Noon in the Commons Room

Speaker: **RICHARD THIEME**

"TechnoCulture Shock— Why it Never Stops, How it Impacts Religion and What We Can Do about it."

Our speaker, **Richard Thieme**, is an author and professional speaker who addresses challenges posed by new technologies. His speaking addresses "the human in the machine," technology-related security and intelligence issues as they come home to our humanity.

Thieme's passion for integrating technology and spirituality began in the eighties when he wrote "Computer Applications for Spirituality: The Transformation of Religious Experience," an essay published by the Anglican Theological Review.

He joined Bill Moyers and noted religious scholars in New York to explore religion and technology in the twenty-first century; a book based on that conference includes his 10,000-word essay *"Entering Sacred Digital Space."*

Richard and his wife, Shirley, live in Edina and joined St. Stephen's a little over one year ago.



Make your reservation now! Cost is \$12.00 per person

To make a reservation mail your check (payable to St. Stephen's Church) in the enclosed envelope or drop it in the collection plate on Sunday. Please write "Senior Fellowship Luncheon" on the memo line. Last day to make a reservation is *Tuesday, September 18*. (Your check is your reservation.)

The menu will be hot chicken salad, relish tray, assorted rolls (including gluten free) and apple crisp for dessert.

We love to have you come to our luncheons, but PLEASE make a reservation. We need to know how much food to order!

MEET OUR NEW YOUTH AND CHILDREN MINISTERS

In 2017 a careful examination of the parish budget indicated that we were in the healthy position to fill the position of Minister of Children and Families. A search team was formed and **Ministry Architects**, a national church consulting firm was hired to assist. After the process began, it was clear there was a need to hire a Minister for Youth as well. The search team met every week for six months. They established a timeline, clarified the job descriptions, interviewed candidates and kept the congregation informed of their progress.

The results of their prayerful search are the two individuals introduced below who began work in June 2018.

Our sincere thanks to the search committee for serving on this important committee: Karol Saunders (chair), Nicole Bates, Cathy Cella, Jeff Helms, Avie Jarka, Will Jarka, Margit Johnson, Fei McKhann, Julia Gutz Moller, Brian Ostenso and Emily Reichenbach.



MATT LEWELLYN-OTTEN MINISTER FOR YOUTH

Tell us about your background.

I was born in Pennsylvania but grew up in Charleston, SC, where I learned to love the ocean (I'm sure I'll learn to love lakes, too!). I was baptized and confirmed within the Presbyterian Church USA that would later become a member of the United Church of Christ.

I was first led to ministry in the church because of two wonderful women, one who served as the Director of Christian Education and the other as Youth Minister in my church in Summerville, SC. They shaped a new understanding of the Christian tradition for me, even as a high school student. Truly, they are the reason I love ministry... especially youth ministry.

Tell us about your family.

My parents have been married for 42 years. My father worked with gas distribution for over thirty years and my mother has worked within education for over twenty. I have one older brother, married with three children.

I married my husband Chris on December 31, 2016. Chris works as a software developer for a Boston-based company and now gets to work from home (a great perk of tech jobs!). Chris and I live in Uptown (which we love) with our dog, Cooper.

MISSY GREENE

MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



Tell us about your background and your family.

I was born and raised in Erie, Pennsylvania, which sits in the northwest corner of the state. I have two siblings, a younger brother and a younger sister. They are both taller than me and still live in Erie. My mom works for Penn State Behrend and my dad is an Erie City Firefighter.

One fun fact about my family is that my paternal grandmother was born in Le Sueur, MN.

Tell us about your education and work history.

I have a Bachelor's degree in Elementary and Kindergarten Education from Penn State University and a Master's degree in Theological Studies, concentrating in Christian Formation, from Virginia Theological Seminary.

I grew up in the Episcopal Church, participating in formation programs through the Diocese of Northwestern PA since second grade. It was there that my love for God and the church grew. I have been working professionally in ministry for seven years. For the last five years, I was with St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Fairview, PA, doing formation programming for all ages, as well as overseeing programs for the diocese.

Tell us about your education and work history.

I received my B.A. in Bible and Religion at Erskine College in Due West, SC, where I focused my studies on Christian Education with church ministries.

After graduation I accepted a call to ministry as the Youth Minister at a church in Rock Hill, SC for a few years, then went back to school for my Master of Public Administration. That led me to a job with the City of Charleston with an innovative department that sought the improvement of zoning and planning within the city. I later switched to economic development and planning within Charleston. While working for the City of Charleston I also worked part-time as the Director of Youth Ministries at a wonderful church in Charleston called Circular Congregational Church. It was while I was there that I received a call to attend seminary.

In the fall of 2015, I matriculated into Boston University School of Theology where I graduated on May 19th with my Master of Divinity and a certificate in Conflict Transformation. While attending school, I worked as the Youth Minister in a United Church of Christ congregation in Milton, MA. I have almost eight years collective experience within youth ministry.

What do you do for fun?

I love to stay active. I try to stay in shape by running halfmarathons, biking to the church, and having a regular exercise routine! I enjoy hiking, the water, reading, cooking, listening to terrible 90s pop music, singing way too loud, and eating pizza! I love the *Harry Potter* movies, can quote *Mean Girls* all day, and cry every time I watch *Finding Neverland*. Chris and I love going to the movies and try to watch movies as often as possible. Chris and I also love craft beer and checking out local breweries.

What are your hopes for the youth of St. Stephen's?

I am looking forward to having a lot of fun! I love youth ministry and I love spending time with young people and find myself learning every time I am with them. I may take the role of "teacher" or "leader" of the youth group but I have already found that *they* are a wonderful group of teachers! Moreover, I am excited to be a part of the work that is already happening at St. Stephen's! Being able to join the professional staff and the lay leaders of St. Stephen's is an immense privilege and one I do not take lightly! The idea of being a part of such a vibrant, loving community is the answer to many, many prayers. I am humbled at the thought of working with such an amazing community of people.

Do you have any guilty pleasures?!

I have to have pizza once a week...sometimes twice!



Left to right: Matt, with Cooper and Chris

I also took on the role as the Director of Protestant Campus Ministry at Penn State Behrend before deciding that it was time for full-time ministry.

What do you do for fun?

I enjoy watching sports, movies, and going to the theater. I also enjoy traveling, doing yoga, and trying new things.

What drew you to this position at St. Stephen's?

The opportunity to do full time ministry in a more focused area like Children's Ministry drew me to St. Stephen's in the first place. Minnesota just seemed like a place where I could live, and when I visited the search committee did a great job of selling both St. Stephen's and the surrounding community. There is a lot of potential for great ministry here, and I look forward to being a part of it.

What are your hopes for the children of St. Stephen's?

My hope is that the children of St. Stephen's know God loves them, and the church is a safe and fun environment in which to experience God's love through community.

Do you have any guilty pleasures?!

I am a huge geek. I love all things *Marvel, Doctor Who, Game of Thrones*, etc., but my favorite above all is *Harry Potter*. I have way more Harry Potter merchandise than I should admit to having, but I love all of it. I even had copies of the books in eight different languages.



Missy on her first Sunday pictured with Karol Saunders, chair of the search committee.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

SUNDAY SEPT. 2	COMMUNITY UNITY SUNDAY — Join us after the 10 am service for refreshments and to meet someone you may not have met before.	
WED. SEPT. 5	PIG ROAST & WELCOME BACK PICNIC — Join us on the lawn (in the Gathering Space if it rains) for pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs, coleslaw, chips, watermelon and dessert. There is no charge, but good will offerings are gratefully accepted.	
SUNDAY SEPT. 9	WE RETURN TO THE WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE9:00 a.m.Worship in the Sanctuary (traditional hymns, choral music and a sermon)10:00 amWelcome Potluck between services,11:15 amWorship in the Sanctuary (songs, jazz-world music combo and a sermon)	
SUNDAY SEPT. 9	TAIZÉ WORSHIP RETURNS on the 2 nd Sunday each month at 6:15 pm in the Chapel. Come for an hour of quiet prayer, contemplation and peace. Taizé worship tradition includes reflective music and chants, readings and a time of silence and quiet prayer.	
WED. SEPT. 12		
SUNDAY SEPT. 16	ADULT FORUM STARTS	
SUNDAY OCT. 7	COMMUNITY UNITY SUNDAY — Join us after the 10 am service for refreshments and to meet someone you may not have met before.	
SUNDAY OCT. 7	BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS — Bring your pets, all creatures welcome, for this outdoor service beginning at 11:15 am. (Cats in carriers preferred.) Leashes and clean up supplies as needed, please. In case of rain service will move to the Gathering Space of the church.	
SAT. OCT. 13	WOMEN IN FELLOWSHIP — Join women of all generations to exchange ideas and grow together spiritually. Our speaker will be Anna Ostenso Moore. Continental breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Commons Room and the program begins at 9:00.	
SAVE THE DATEDETAILS COMING SOON! WOMEN'S RETREAT — Friday, October 26 To Saturday, October 27 COVENANT SUNDAY + BRUNCH — Sunday, October 28 (One Service at 10 am) BASH AFTER DARK — Saturday, November 10 CLARK'S VETERANS' DAY PROGRAM — Sunday, November 11 ALL SOULS' SERVICES — Friday, November 2 at 12 Noon and 7 pm		
SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH	ST. STEPHEN'S BOOK CLUB — Our book club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the library. All book lovers welcome! September 10 "Hannah Coulter" by Wendell Berry October 9 "Little Fires Everywhere" by Celeste Ng November 13 "Lots of Candles and Plenty of Cake" by Anna Quindlen	

LATELY YOU MAY HAVE SEEN OR READ ABOUT MANY AREAS OF THE CHURCH BEING RESTORED, REPAIRED, OR GENERALLY "REFRESHED".

SOME PROJECTS ARE THE PROPERTIES COMMITTEE AT WORK ON THEIR TO DO LIST AND SOME ARE HAPPENING BECAUSE ONE OR TWO INDIVIDUALS STEPPED UP AND SAID "I THINK THIS AREA NEEDS A FACE LIFT AND I WANT TO HELP."

HERE IS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF SOME OF THE CHANGES IN AND AROUND THE CHURCH.

NURSERY

RFSTORF

Improvements to the Nursery are underway and should be completed in early September. Watch for enhancements to cabinetry, diaper changing and the sink area.

ALTAR GUILD AND VESTING ROOMS

This area and adjacent hallways and stairs are being remodeled. The work includes improved electrical service, better workspace, improved plumbing, new floors and better ventilation. One delightful fact...when the old tile floor was removed, they found a beautiful oak wood floor underneath that is being kept. Thanks to Judy Edin and Jane Slade for their tireless work on so many aspects of this project.

LIBRARY

The library project was a case of two individuals, in this case, Susan Dowd and Lisa Wiens Heinsohn who, while attending a meeting in the library, looked around and agreed the space was overdue for some attention. It had been 15 years since the books had been reorganized in alphabetical order by author. Under the direction of Lisa, all the books were examined and any old, out of date or tattered books were weeded out. The books were reorganized by subject matter to make them easier to find. The clean out makes room for future purchases of new books to the collection. Thanks to Lisa, Susan, Jane Parry, Ann Moser, Lynn Torney and Connie Brekken for sorting, lifting and reorganizing the books.

COMMONS ROOM

The Properties Committee has identified a number of areas that need work in this room. They include replacement of the patio sliding doors, as well as foundational improvements to the patio itself. The doorway to the patio currently has a step down as seen in the picture (right). Part of the change will make the patio level with the floor inside, which will make for better access, especially for those with wheelchairs. The Commons Room will remain open and usable during this project with the exception of the patio and stairwell door leading outside and the sliding doors to the patio.

CREEKSIDE ROOM

This is another project that was started when Debbie Zarling, Susan Dowd and Jane Slade took a critical look at the room and agreed it needed a "face lift". They put their creative minds together and went on a mission to enhance the space and make it a more intimate setting. And it was all done at a minimal cost. The alterations include the addition of a large mirror and lamps donated by Gail Hazelwood plus two tables from Judy Edin. The Chippendale sofa from John and Jackie Sullivan was repaired and recovered and an elegant oriental rug was uncovered in the attic. Finally, our sexton, Robert Theis, painted the walls and cleaned the carpeting.











MEET, MOLLY REICHARD, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Molly Reichard is not a new face to most of us, but in May she began work at St. Stephen's fulltime as Minister for Community Engagement. So we thought she qualified for a "new employee interview" in the Newsletter. A long-time member of St. Stephen's, Molly will now expand her role in providing our regular communications, building bridges to bring people to ministry, service, fellowship, and engagement with Christian faith.



Tell us about your background.

I was born and raised in the Midwest and am a cradle Episcopalian. Although we've lived in MN since I was preschool age, I was born in Wisconsin. I'm pretty sure this got me the second date with my super-proud-to-be-from-Wisconsin husband, Dean. Both of my parents hail from the East Coast so I like to think I have a balance of the two regions ingrained in me. When we first moved to MN we lived in Bloomington before moving to Northfield where we lived until I graduated from High School.

Tell us about your family.

Well, most of you probably already know my parents, George and Caroline Wanstall. I have an older brother, Andy, who also lives in the Twin Cities with his family. We've always been a close foursome as our extended family is not close by and we enjoy our "original four" dinner gatherings whenever our schedules permit. My husband, Dean, and I were married at St. Stephen's five years ago and we reside in St. Paul.

Tell us about your involvement with St. Stephen's.

My family has been involved with St. Stephen's since the 1970s. We came here when we first moved to MN and then returned when we moved back to the Twin Cities from Northfield. While I went away to college and my parents moved away for my father's work, we all moved back a few years later and returned to St. Stephen's. I've been here ever since and have been involved in many ministries. I served as a children's and youth leader for many years, have sung in the choir, have chaired the Bash (both the one in the park and the one after dark). Most recently, I've worked on the communications, website, etc. for the parish and served on the Vestry.

Tell us about your education and work history.

This is a tangled tale... I graduated from the University of Kansas with a BA in History and Art History. What do you do with those degrees? Go to law school. I graduated from William Mitchell of College of Law and practiced briefly before taking a job with a legal publisher, Thomson Reuters (although it was West Publishing when I started). There I discovered my interest and talent for user experience design and project management. For the next 28 years I worked my way up and through Thomson, American Express Financial Advisers and Ameriprise Financial, ultimately leading a large department in the technology division. Several years ago, I decided to make a big job change. I left Ameriprise, took six months off from working and ultimately decided to simplify my work life. I returned to my first love, User Experience Design, at Best Buy. I remained at Best Buy until making my most recent career shift, serving with St. Stephen's.

What do you do for fun?

Too much! I'm a "joiner" by nature so there is always something going on. I love to spend time with family and friends and enjoy entertaining folks at our home. My husband and I share the love of travel, listening to live music, walking, biking, and... a very passionate dislike of the New York Yankees (we discovered this on date 2 which precipitated a date 3).

What drew you to this position at St. Stephen's?

For me, this position was the answer to a journey of prayer and discernment. As I look back at the career changes I've made over the last few years, I see how my life and time opened to enable me to explore more service opportunities with this community. This role feels like the natural progression along that path. I'm excited to use the experience I've gained through my years working in the corporate world to serve with St. Stephen's.

Do you have any guilty pleasures?!

In my house, we proudly cheer for the Green Bay Packers, love Bugles (the nacho cheese ones), Barry Manilow, checklists, dark chocolate, C.S. Lewis, historical fiction and all the cheesy Christmas movies on the Hallmark Channel.

THE GENEROSITY OF MEMBERS

THIS YEAR ST. STEPHEN'S RECEIVED SOME WONDERFUL GIFTS IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES. WE ARE BLESSED BY THE GENEROSITY OF OUR MEMBERS AND THANK THEM FOR THEIR KINDNESS AND THOUGHTFULNESS.

JOHN MACLENNAN donated the candle stands you see on the altar in memory of his wife, Claire.

The candle stands replace an older pair made of wood.



Claire (left), who was a member of the Altar Guild, died September 23, 2016.





HUGH AND MARILYN WOOLDRIDGE gave the items in the photo (left) in memory of Hugh's twin sister, Joan Maynard.

Pictured from left to right are two torches used to hold candles during the procession, four purificators (napkins) used to wipe the chalice after each

communicant drinks from the cup, each embroidered with a cross, and two candle lighters (with snuffers).

The gift was dedicated in May.

Joan (right) was also a member of the Altar Guild and died October 13, 2017.



INSIDE OUTREACH

OUTREACH GRANTS HELP KIDS AND FAMILIES GET BACK TO SCHOOL WITH LESS STRESS.

EACH FALL, I FEEL A TWINGE OF ENVY, IMAGINING THE ANTICIPATION MANY KIDS EXPERIENCE AS THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR APPROACHES. BUT I'M ALSO REMINDED OF THE TREMENDOUS COST ASSOCIATED WITH BACK-TO-SCHOOL ESSENTIALS LIKE BACKPACKS, CLOTHES, SHOES, AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES. THOSE EXPENSES ADD UP QUICKLY, PUTTING ADDITIONAL STRAIN ON LOW INCOME FAMILIES WHOSE BUDGETS ARE ALREADY STRETCHED THIN.

THROUGH GRANTS TO MANY SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE THE WEST METRO, INCLUDING FAMILIES IN NEED IN THE EDINA AREA, OUTREACH HELPS REDUCE SOME OF THAT FINANCIAL BURDEN. HERE ARE SOME OF THE ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT THROUGH TWO OF OUR PRIORITY FUNDING AREAS – YOUTH AND HUNGER.

VEAP – Through our ongoing partnership with VEAP, shepherded by St. Stephen's parishioner, Debbie Belfry, Outreach grants help support families needing assistance with food and other essentials. VEAP clients can visit the food shelf at the Bloomington facility to supplement the groceries they're able to purchase on their own. The food shelf is an amazing place, set up like a supermarket, with clear instructions about what and how much each patron may take home. Debbie is currently heading up a drive to collect backpacks and school supplies for VEAP clients, eliminating another back to school expense for low-income parents.

GRANT PRESCHOOL – A longtime partner of Outreach and St. Stephen's, Grant Preschool uses Outreach funds to offset everything from part of the classroom teacher's salary, to supplies and snacks for their young students. St. Stephen's parishioners generously volunteer their time at Grant too, helping in the classroom, and getting kids to and from school.

GOOD IN THE 'HOOD – In May, St, Stephen's parishioners donated more than 540 pairs of shoes to the Shoe Away Hunger Shoe Drive, which were then sold at up to \$5 per pair via a mobile shoe store that visits lower income areas in the Twin Cities. The Shoe Bus is especially busy in the fall with back to school needs, and the money raised from shoe sales goes back into Good in the 'Hood's programs to feed low income families.

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lafia Foun

ALAFIA received a grant this past spring, allowing them to continue their work of "championing purpose-filled leaders transforming life in north Minneapolis." One of those leaders is Neda Kellogg, founding executive director of Project DIVA, a coaching and mentoring

organization for young black women and girls in grades 1-12. The program has six areas of focus – career readiness, academic achievement, social health, emotional wellness, financial literacy, and physical wellness. Ms. Kellogg was recently awarded a prestigious Bush Fellowship for her work with Project Diva, which she founded more than 10 years ago.

As the new school year approaches, we're discovering even more ways to help students in the area. Outreach will be reviewing an exciting new grant/partnership opportunity that came to our attention via parishioner, Mary Tomback. As always, if you are aware of organizations in our service areas of youth, hunger, housing, and seniors that could use some support, please get in touch with anyone from the Outreach Committee.



Leslie Gibson





FEBRUARY SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON



Our Asst. Rector, Lisa, and her father, Harold Wiens. Harold agreed to be our speaker when Lisa's husband, Jeff, had to cancel at the last minute.



Radonna and Jim Schwarz say farewell as they begin their new adventure. They moved to Virginia the day after our luncheon to live near their daughter.



"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." Abraham Lincoln



I love everything that's old, - old friends, old times, old manners, old books, old wine. Oliver Goldsmith





"Friends are the siblings God never gave us."

Mencíus

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church 4439 West 50th Street Edina, MN 55424