



# The St. Stephen's Senior Newsletter

FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL 2019

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church — Edina, Minnesota

*Dear beloved senior members of St.  
Stephen's!*

An old fashioned winter has descended on Minnesota and on the day of our annual meeting temperatures were in the single digits. Nevertheless, over 200 people came. The Rev. Tom Cook presided and our treasurer reported (spoiler alert)...we have a surplus in our bank account! That is always welcome news. If you couldn't attend, we have a summary of the meeting on page 7.

We also conducted our annual interview with the new Senior Warden, Rick Massopust. Even friends who think they know Rick well may be surprised to learn something new.

You can read more about our new Assistant Rector, Amelia Arthur, who started November 25. (See page 9.) She is finishing her Masters in Divinity degree at Luther Seminary and looking forward to ordination to the priesthood in June.

It may be January but *tempus fugit* so peruse the Lenten and Easter programs and services on pages 4 and 5 and mark your calendars now.

In the meantime, we wish you a Happy Valentines Day, Happy St. Patrick's Day and most importantly, **a Blessed Easter to you all.**

Connie Brekken, Editor  
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Jane Parry  
Co-Editor

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## CONGRATULATIONS!

...To **Clark Duhrkopf**, our Director of Music Ministries, and **our parish choir** for their fourth invitation to perform at Carnegie Hall!

The Distinguished Concerts International New York called Clark and said, "*In recognition of your dedication to musical excellence, and due to your stellar previous appearance on the DCINY Concert Series...*" they are invited to join other outstanding choristers in a performance of Kim André Arnesen's *Magnificat* in New York City on Sunday, April 19, 2020.

The conductor will be Anton Armstrong from St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN.



## CALL THE ST. STEPHEN'S OFFICE WHEN YOU NEED ASSISTANCE WITH ANY OF THE FOLLOWING.

PHONE NUMBER: 952-920-0595

You need pastoral care.....	Fr. Tom Cook
You wish to plan a funeral or memorial service .....	Fr. Tom Cook
You want to add a name to the Prayer Chain or the Prayers for the People.....	Deen Hubin
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 Sunday flowers .....	Deen Hubin
You have questions about your pledge .....	Nancy Wood
You have a new address, phone number or email .....	Deen Hubin

### 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

#### AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

2018:	247 (5.0 service only through Feb. 11, 2018)
2017:	259
2016:	249
2015:	237

#### CHRISTMAS TOTAL ATTENDANCE\*

2018:	1,092
2017:	1,055
2016:	1,109
2015:	1,083

\* Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services

#### SACRAMENTAL MARKERS

Number of Baptisms.....	18
Number of those confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church .....	12
Number of Marriages.....	7
Number of Church funerals or committals at gravesites .....	10

#### PROPERTIES COMMITTEE PROJECTS

- Refurbished exterior accessible ramp to chapel entry
- Nursery upgrades
- Sacristy, vesting room and hallway upgrades
- Sanctuary lighting: control updates and new LED fixtures
- Refinished exterior doors
- Patio refurbishment
- Creekside/bridal room update
- Hazardous material survey
- Painting of Gathering Space

### IN REMEMBRANCE...



#### *Of Current Members*

##### **Nancy Converse.**

Died December 19, 2018. Wife of Chuck Converse, sister-in-law of Ann Marx. Memorial service January 4, 2019.

##### **Jacquelin K. Mork.**

Age 83. Died January 1, 2019. Memorial service January 7, 2019 at St. Stephen's.

#### *And of Those We Knew and Loved*

##### **Allan Edwards.**

Age 92. Died January 4, 2019. Memorial service at Grace Church Chapel, Eden Prairie, January 12, 2019. Former member of St. Stephen's.

### MISSED CHURCH ON SUNDAY?

Remember you can join Fr. Tom and Amelia and other St. Stephen's members for Communion at **Friendship Village** the first Tuesday of every month at 10:30 am. All are welcome.

The next three dates are:

**February 19**

**March 19**

**April 16**

Friendship Village is located near the intersection of Highways 169 and 494. The address is 8100 Highwood Dr., Bloomington.

### REMINDER...



#### **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS SUNDAY MARCH 10.**

Set your clock *ahead* one hour on Saturday night, March 9. If you forget, you will arrive at 10 am for the 9 am service.

# SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

**Tuesday, February 19, 2019**

**12 Noon in the Commons Room**

**Speaker: MARCIA ZIMMERMAN**  
**Senior Rabbi at Temple Israel**



Rabbi Marcia Zimmerman will speak on *"Religious beliefs, practices and traditions of major religions that despite differences, promote peace and values so vitally important in the world today."*

Rabbi Zimmerman is the Senior Rabbi at Temple Israel, a congregation of more than 2,000 households in the heart of Minneapolis. She is vocal and active on policy issues affecting Minnesota and the nation, honoring the words above Temple Israel's entrance: "Our house shall be a house of prayer for all peoples."

Rabbi Zimmerman is dedicated to ensuring that Temple Israel's programming, educational opportunities, and worship are inclusive and celebrate people of color, diverse learning styles and special needs, all genders and gender expressions, the LGBTQ community, and interfaith families.

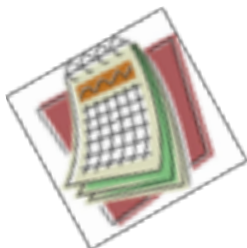
**Make your reservation *now*, as this event is earlier  
in the month than usual!**

**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 *Friday, February 15*. (Your check is your reservation.)

The menu will be beef stroganoff, assorted rolls (including gluten-free), veggie relish tray, and cherry pie a la mode 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!***



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

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### **COMMUNITY UNITY SUNDAY** — Sunday, February 3

Join us after the 9:00 a.m. service for refreshments and to meet someone you may not have met before.



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### **“WHOLLY BELOVED” WOMEN’S RETREAT** — Saturday, February 9 from 9 am to 2 pm

Women of all ages are invited to come together for a retreat held in the Commons Room at church led by our Assistant rector, Amelia Arthur, and guest facilitator, The Rev. Sarah Ciavarri.

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### **COMMUNITY UNITY SUNDAY** — Sunday, March 3

Join us after the 9:00 a.m. service for refreshments and to meet someone you may not have met before.



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### **MARDI GRAS CONCERT & RECEPTION** — Sunday, March 3 at 2 pm

The music ensembles of St. Stephen’s will perform music about “MUSIC and SONG”. Come enjoy the music plus entertainment by the Jugheads Youth Juggling Company. A Mardi Gras reception with Gumbo, King Cakes and more will follow in the Gathering Space.



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### **WOMEN IN FELLOWSHIP** — Saturday, March 9, 8:30 to 10 am

Women of all ages are invited to join us in fellowship as we greet old friends, make new ones and generally refresh our spirits and bodies (with continental breakfast). Our speaker is **Susan Seiler** who will talk about her spiritual journey. Continental breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Commons Room and the program begins at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to bring something to share — it always turns out to be a delicious buffet spread.



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### **FISH FRY AND BINGO** — Friday, March 15

Join us at our **fourth annual** Fish Fry and Bingo Night. This popular event fills up quickly so plan to buy your ticket early.



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### **COMMUNITY UNITY SUNDAY** — Sunday, April 7

Join us after the 9:00 a.m. service for refreshments and to meet someone you may not have met before.



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### **ST. STEPHEN’S BOOK CLUB**

Our book club meets the second Tuesday of every month at 1:30 PM in the library. All book lovers are welcome. Please join us!

February	“Angle of Repose” by Wallace Stegner
March	“Virgil Wander” by Leif Enger
April	“East Wind, West Wind” by Pearl Buck





## LENTEN AND EASTER SCHEDULE

**Tuesday, March 5, at 6 pm**

### **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

The Martyrs Men's group is again hosting a traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper in the Gathering Space the night before Lent begins. There is no cost but a free will offering is appreciated.



**Wednesday, March 6**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

There are four services of Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes.

7:00 am	In the Chancel
12 Noon	In the Chancel of the church
5:30 pm	In the Nave (a service especially welcoming for young children.)
7:00 pm	In the Nave



### **LENTEN WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPERS** beginning Ash Wednesday

On every Wednesday in Lent you are invited to a simple supper of soup and bread from 6:15 to 6:45 pm In the Gathering Space.

## **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

**MONDAY, APRIL 15**

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chancel

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16**

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chancel

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17**

9:30 am Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

7:00 pm Tenebrae Service in the Chancel

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 18**

6:15 pm Agape Supper

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist

### **GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 19**

7:00 am Morning Prayer with reserved sacrament

12 Noon Proper Liturgy for Good Friday

5:30 pm Children's Service

7:00 pm Proper Liturgy for Good Friday with choir

### **HOLY SATURDAY – APRIL 20**

9:00 am Proper Liturgy for Holy Saturday

7:00 pm Great Vigil of Easter followed by champagne reception

### **EASTER SUNDAY — APRIL 21**

9:00 am Festival Holy Eucharist with Parish Choir

(Easter egg hunt between morning services)

11:15 am Festival Holy Eucharist



## OUR NEW SENIOR WARDEN: *RICK MASSOPUST*

The Senior Warden for 2019 began his term at the annual meeting on Sunday, January 27. Every year we interview the new leader of the Vestry to introduce him or her to the congregation.



### ***Tell us about your background.***

I was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota and grew up in south Minneapolis with my parents and three siblings until I was in sixth grade when we moved to Edina. After graduating from Edina High School, I made the daring move of leaving Minnesota to attend Lawrence University, a small liberal arts college in eastern Wisconsin. Upon graduating from college, I returned to Minnesota to attend the University of Minnesota Law School and would never live outside the state again.

### ***Tell us about your family.***

My wife, Mo, and I just celebrated our fortieth wedding anniversary last November. We met when I was a young lawyer practicing with a law firm in downtown Minneapolis and Mo had started her career in banking with what is now U.S. Bank. Our first encounter was a bit rocky. Early one cold winter morning as we were both driving up the ramp to our respective parking stalls, Mo's car started skidding backward on slippery black ice until it rammed into the front of mine. From that point on it only got better. We started dating, got married, bought a home in the country club neighborhood of Edina (in which we still live today!) and had three wonderful children, Betsy, Katie and Charlie. Fast forward to today. All three of our children are married to spouses who we love and adore and we currently have been blessed to have ten grandchildren ranging in ages from eleven to one. One family lives in Boston, one in Chicago and one in St. Paul.

### ***Tell us about your career.***

I joined a law firm in downtown Minneapolis immediately after I graduated from law school. Little did I know that would remain with that law firm for my entire career. I loved the practice of law and remained a partner in the firm for forty-five years. Two years ago, I made the somewhat difficult decision to retire. It turned out to be the absolute right decision. I am thoroughly enjoying retirement life.

### ***What do you do for fun or to relax?***

Mo and I love to travel and have had the good fortune in recent years to explore many parts of the world. Our grandchildren provide a never-ending source of enjoyment, whether it be traveling to more than ten national parks, skiing at Lutsen and Big Sky, Montana, or watching countless baseball, basketball and soccer games. We enjoy spending time at our cabin with family and friends. I love to garden, to golf and to read (I am currently on a multi-year project of reading biographies of all the Presidents in chronological order). For many years Mo and I have participated in a bridge club, a book club and a house group where, in each case, we have made lasting friendships that we treasure greatly.

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

Our involvement with St. Stephen's initially started slowly about twenty-five years ago. One day our oldest daughter, Betsy, asked if she could start attending the youth program at St. Stephens rather than at the church that we attended. We grudgingly agreed. Similar requests soon followed from our other children. As a result, we started attending various events at the church, got to know other parents, witnessed our children experience Christ through TEC and joined an Alpha course. Before long we were hooked and soon became members. After that, Mo and I became actively involved as members of the TEC Adult Team for many years. I became one of the adults in charge and found it to be one of the most rewarding spiritual experiences of my faith journey. From there, I have served on the Stewardship Committee, serving as its chair in my final year, the St. Stephen's Fund Committee and the Vestry. I also participate in Martyrs, the Men's Chef Society and the St. Stephen's "Old Men's" canoeing and fishing trips.

### ***What are your hopes for St. Stephen's?***

We had a great year under the leadership of Father Tom, as Rector, and Susan Seiler, as Senior Warden. Most importantly, we have added such wonderful people to our staff in Amelia, Matt, Missy, Molly and Robert. This year our primary goal should be to support and do all we can to enhance and advance the ministries for which these folks are responsible. It is also my hope that we will continue to improve and enhance the buildings and facilities to better serve our faith community. Finally, our faith community is filled with people who are so giving of themselves and their talents and resources in order to serve others in our greater community. I hope that this year we will be able to bootstrap onto those efforts and continue to look beyond the walls of our church to make even larger contributions to our community as a whole. These are big goals and aspirations but, with the good Lord's help, we can make St. Stephen's an even more welcoming and vibrant community in which to grow our faith.

I am very blessed and excited to be a part of it!



## ST. STEPHEN'S ANNUAL MEETING & BRUNCH SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2019

*The Bylaws of the Church of St. Stephen the Martyr state that at the Annual Meeting the "Executive Committee, on behalf of the Vestry, shall present a full, accurate and faithful written statement of the conditions and activities of the parish as a body Politic."*

If you were unable to attend, here is a brief summary of the meeting.

Our rector, **Fr. Tom Cook**, called the meeting to order at the end of the single 10 am service and asked outgoing Vestry youth representative, Lindsey McKhann, to give the prayer for the Annual Meeting.

After **Linda Bracken** was elected recorder for the annual meeting, Tom read the Sacramental Markers for 2018. The meeting was recessed as we proceeded across the street to the Edina Country Club for brunch where the business meeting was continued.

Outgoing Sr. Warden, **Susan Seiler**, thanked everyone for coming. The theme for 2018 has been "Restore, renew, rejoice!" That theme was evident this year as we welcomed five new staff members: Sexton, Robert Theis; Minister for Community Engagement, Molly Reichard; Minister for Youth, Matt Lewellyn-Otten; Minister for Children and Families, Missy Greene; and Assistant Rector, Amelia Arthur.

In 2018 the properties committee continued its strong focus on *Stewardship of Place* with the goal to not only keep what we have in good working order, but to invest in improvements in a balanced way. (See page 2, "Year in Review", for completed projects.) Another focus is overall safety and security. An emergency action plan is being created for preparedness, response and recovery. This comprehensive plan will help both staff and lay leaders manage everything from a fire, tornado, medical situation or even an active shooter. We have recently tightened security by reducing the number of doors left unlocked at any given time.

Treasurer, **Chas McKhann**, reported we are financially sound thanks to *everyone*.

- Total income was \$1,269,718, approximately the same as last year and very close to budget.
- Expenses were below budget by about \$87,000. The biggest savings came from the timing of new staff hires and having an open Assistant Rector position for part of the year.
- Total pledges for 2019 received to date are \$1,053,646, up slightly from last year. There are 234 pledges compared to 222 last year including 25 brand new ones. The average pledge is \$4,504. The chart to the right shows pledge income in orange.
- 2019 budget highlights:
  - Budget will be tighter as we will have salaries for a full complement of staff with associated benefit expenses.
  - Increase of payment to ECMN based on membership count.
  - Additional funds available for Children's and Families, Youth, Adult Education and Community Building.
  - Similar funds available for Music.
  - New dedicated funds for Marketing & Communications.

**Fr. Tom** asked the membership to affirm two changes to the By Laws.

- One revises language to the St. Stephen's Fund and creates the Strategic Investment Fund, a short- to medium-term investment vehicle for assets of the Parish.
- The other creates the ministry of a Community Building Committee that will organize Parish-wide events such as the Fish Fry and the champagne reception after the Great Vigil of Easter service.

The membership also unanimously accepted the slate of nominees for 2019.

**Rick Massopust**, new Sr. Warden for 2019, said that now we have a full staff, our job is to support, advance and enhance their ministries. He thanked Susan Seiler for her leadership the past two years and presented her with a gift, the first of the seven volumes of the fully illustrated Saint John's Bible, which includes and is entitled "Gospels and Acts."

Finally, Fr. Tom announced the recipient of **the Rector's Cup**, which is presented annually to someone who in a behind-the-scenes way contributed to the ongoing life of the parish. This year Fr. Tom said there was not one but three recipients — **Dan Akins, Len Slade and Vance Woolwine** — our talented photographers who regularly capture life at St. Stephen's with great photos.

### 2019 VESTRY

#### Officers:

Rick Massopust.....	Sr. Warden
Cathy Cella.....	Jr. Warden
Chas McKhann.....	Treasurer
Linda Bracken.....	Clerk

#### Vestry Members at Large:

Connie Brekken.....	2020
Geoff Gothro.....	2020
Karol Saunders.....	2020
Avenel Jarka.....	2021
Jim Korslund.....	2021
Keith Skerrett.....	2021
Tom Beringer.....	2022
Julia Gutz-Moller.....	2022
Mary Sue Vorbrich.....	2022

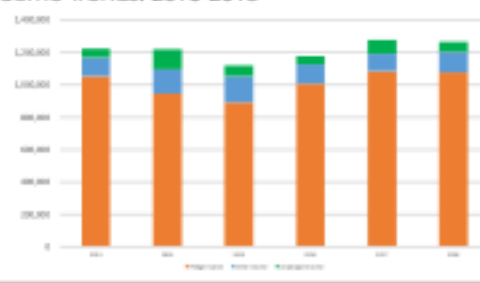
#### Returning Vestry Member:

Karen Smith.....	2020
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#### Youth Vestry Representative

Avie Jarka.....	2020
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Income Trends: 2013-2018





## STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Our occasional series on the stained glass windows in the sanctuary continues. This time we are featuring two windows with the overall theme of **History**. They can be seen on the left aisle of the nave about two-thirds of the way toward the altar.



### LEFT WINDOW

**The theme of this window is Church History.**

The top panel shows **the Shield of St. George of England**, the patron saint of England.

The middle panel features **The Minnehaha Grange, #398**, which stood on this site from 1879 until 1935 when it was moved for the construction of the church.

The bottom panel has the **Shield of St. Stephen** with stones and branches; **The Shield of the Episcopal Church** with date **1789**, when the Episcopal Church was established in the United States; and **The Shield of the Diocese of Minnesota** with the date **1857**, when our diocese was established. The latter has the Latin phrase: "Pax per Sanguinem Crucis" — "Peace through the blood of the cross".

The dedication at the bottom of the window reads: *To the glory of God and in thanksgiving for A. T. Hansord and Wesland Hansord.*

### RIGHT WINDOW

**The theme of this window is Pentecost, the 50 days after the first day of Passover.**

The top panel shows **the Holy Bible** and **the Nicene Creed**.

The middle panel shows **Jesus with six Disciples**. Above them is the Dove (the Holy Spirit) delivering grace from God over Jesus.

The bottom panel shows a **Shell with water**, representing Baptism and a **Chalice**, representing communion with the **chi rho cross** symbolizing Christianity.

The dedication at the bottom reads: *To the glory of God and in memory of Charles Edward Leigh*."



## MEET OUR NEW ASSISTANT RECTOR: **AMELIA ARTHUR**

Our newest member of the clergy joined us a little over two months ago and has a full schedule with a new job, a young family, completing her Masters in Divinity degree, not to mention trying to learn 300 new names. But she graciously agreed to an interview so we can get to know her better. Thank you, Amelia, and welcome!



### ***Tell us about your background.***

I was born and grew up in the Bay Area of California the oldest of three siblings, where my dad worked for Cray Research and my mother taught Political Science at UC Berkeley. (Small world: Cray is headquartered here and he took several trips to the “Mini-apple” as I called it.) When I was eight, we moved to the Maryland suburbs of Washington, D.C. as my dad took a new job with Cray. My mom took a break from teaching and worked for the Children’s Defense Fund and the National Governors Association as a policy analyst.

### ***What brought you to Minnesota?***

In New Orleans in 2015 my husband, Mike, finished a two year clerkship after law school and we were ready to make a move to a city where he could begin his law practice and I could go to school. We moved to Minnesota that August where I began studies at Luther Seminary in St. Paul and Mike began practice with a small law firm in St. Paul. Our daughter, Lucy, started kindergarten the same day I started seminary (it made a great “first day of school” Face Book post). She is now eight and our son, Winston, is five. Last year we added a new addition to our family, a golden retriever named Huger (pronounced U-gee).

### ***What was your vocational background before deciding to become a transitional deacon?***

Before starting seminary and the ordination process with ECMN I was a professional lay person for almost a decade. I served as the Director of Youth Ministries at St. Catherine’s Episcopal Church in Marietta, GA, as the Diocesan Youth and Young Adult Coordinator for the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, and as the Director of Formation at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in New Orleans. During seminary I served as the Director of Circle of the Beloved, the Minnesota chapter of the Episcopal Service Corps.

### ***What do you do for fun or to relax?***

I primarily love spending time with my kids. In winter we ice skate, go on “ice hunting expeditions” in the park, and play lots of board games. In summer we love going either to Lake Nokomis or Lake Minnetonka, as well as spending time in our backyard. I also love candlelight yoga and reading.

### ***What drew you to St. Stephen’s?***

After being ordained as a transitional deacon in June I started to realize that as much as I loved working with Circle of the Beloved I really missed parish ministry. Right after Lisa announced that she had accepted the call to St. John’s, I happened to have a meeting with Tom and I walked out of that meeting thinking, “I would love to be at a church like that, too bad I’m not a priest yet.”

Fast forward a few months and I’m talking with Tom at convention and the bishop says I can apply for the job, and before I know it I’m here as the Assistant Rector. What drew me to St. Stephen’s specifically was that it reminded me a lot of the church I grew up attending in Maryland, it felt like home in a way that other churches in Minnesota didn’t, and everyone I met during the interview process seemed so genuine and so dedicated to this community. It’s hard to really explain other than to say that at each point it just felt right, like this was the place I was supposed to be, that this was where God was calling me, and so I trusted that feeling.

I’m so incredibly grateful to be here and so excited for our future together.

### ***What else do you want readers to know?***

Please know that when I say that I want to spend time with each of you I mean it; one of the most joyful parts of this vocation is getting to spend time with people, whether it’s a serious talk, a lighthearted moment of fellowship, or being present with you for a major life event. Being with you and knowing you is a privilege and tremendous blessing to me, I can’t wait to get to know each of you. Please note — my office is always stocked with tea, coffee, and chocolate, so come on by!



## OUTREACH GRANTS

WHO GETS FUNDING?

HOW DOES OUTREACH DECIDE?

### ***Target Foundation Announces Changes in Giving***

Last week, The Target Foundation, a nonprofit arm of the Target Corporation, announced that it is revamping its funding priorities for Minnesota nonprofits, and ending support to roughly 150 charity partners, some of which have been beneficiaries of Foundation funding for decades.

Needless to say, the announcement sent a collective shiver through the local nonprofit community. Organizations like ***Meals on Wheels*** and ***Simpson Housing Services*** learned that they would be losing a considerable amount of support. However, to help them adjust to the reduction in funding, The Foundation will continue to provide some level of financial support over a three-year transitional period, and will also offer fundraising training.

The Target Foundation donates approximately \$9 million in grants to Twin Cities charities and arts organizations annually, and that overall amount will not change. The Foundation is simply shifting the focus of its funding priorities, and will provide more information about its new focus this spring.

### ***Outreach Committee Key Focus***

The St. Stephen's Outreach Committee has a similar focus to our grant making priorities, with initiatives that address ***housing, hunger, youth, and seniors*** at the top of our list. Occasionally, the Committee makes emergency grants for disaster relief efforts, but for the most part, our funding is focused on those four pillars of service.

The groups that receive support from Outreach make their grant money go a very long way, and often work together behind the scenes to ensure that there is no duplication of effort. For example, Debbie Belfry and the team at VEAP are well aware of what's happening with the Reverend Shawn Morrison and the team at ***Good in the 'Hood***, and find ways to collaborate for the most efficient use of resources.

### ***Change in Multi-Year Grants***

Each of our grant recipients provides us with a detailed accounting of how they were able to put their grant money to work. Going forward, multi-year grant recipients will be asked to provide a "progress report" after year one, to ensure that Outreach funds are being used for the purpose for which they were originally intended. Multi-year grants will be limited to two years rather than three, to avoid overcommitting Outreach dollars, and to allow for flexibility in current and future grant making.

While many in the local nonprofit community have criticized The Target Foundation for the shift in its giving focus (and remember, the details have not yet been announced), they have simply chosen to streamline funding to support groups and organizations that are the most important to their company culture and values. Outreach operates under a similar process, and strives to ensure that the grants we make are aligned with the needs of our congregation, our community, and in keeping with our mission – ***"...to inspire, facilitate, provide opportunities, funding, and support; and to respond in faith to Jesus' call to serve."***

We're looking forward to an exciting year ahead - with new Committee members, new voices and opinions - and to providing support to organizations both within and outside of St. Stephens.

## CHRISTMAS SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON



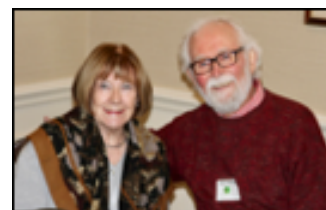
Judging from the smiles, we think everyone had a good time at the annual Christmas luncheon. Was it something in the water or was everyone just happy to see **Len Slade** appear with his camera? Thanks to Len for taking most of these photos, including Clark's "surprise" entertainment – **Nancy Brantingham** – who joined Clark in many musical duets.



A most certain sign of wisdom is cheerfulness.  
Michel de Montaigne



I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.  
Charles Dickens





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

## *CHRISTMAS 2018 AT ST. STEPHEN'S*



Angels among us.



The Gifts of God for the People of God.



The gorgeous Christmas flowers.



The Christmas tree decorated by the children, as far as they could reach.



Choir members warming up.



The ushers in their winter "uniforms".