



# The St. Stephen's Senior Newsletter

FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL 2018

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church — Edina, Minnesota

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

**Welcome to the New Year!** For those of you enjoying winter in warmer latitudes, you missed a wonderful annual meeting and breakfast. But we have summarized the proceedings for you in this issue of the newsletter and we introduce the new Senior Warden.

We have also started what we hope will be a continuing series of articles on the stained glass windows that enhance the sanctuary. We walk by the windows every Sunday but most of us know little of the stories they tell. And some are of a detailed design that, viewed from a distance, makes it difficult to identify the figures and symbols.

In this and future issues we will print photos of the windows with a description of the images and themes they portray. In addition to the main, three-panel window above the altar, there are twelve more windows in the nave and five in the balcony. So there is much to tell and we will revisit this topic for some time to come. We hope it will help you enjoy the windows more the next time you view them.

Connie Brekken, Editor  
952-893-0512

Jane Parry  
Co-Editor

## IN THIS ISSUE:

Annual Meeting Summary .....	p. 7
Lenten and Easter Schedule .....	p. 5
Outreach.....	p. 10
Sanctuary Windows.....	p. 8-9
Sr. Fellowship Luncheon .....	p. 3
Susan Seiler, new Senior Warden .....	p. 6
Upcoming Programs.....	p. 4

## REMINDER...

**DAYLIGHT SAVING  
STARTS SUNDAY,  
MARCH 11, 2018**



Set your clock ***ahead*** one hour *on Saturday night, March 10*. If you don't, you will arrive at church the next morning in time for the recessional, not the processional.



## 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.....	Fr. Tom Cook
You want to add a name to the <i>Prayer Chain</i> or the <i>Prayers of the People</i> .....	Deen Hubin
You or a loved one has been hospitalized.....	Fr. Tom Cook
You wish to be baptized.....	Lisa Wiens Heinsohn
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 .....	Deen Hubin
You have questions about your pledge .....	Nancy Wood
You have a new address, phone number or email .....	Deen Hubin

### IN REMEMBRANCE...

#### OF CURRENT MEMBERS

**Marjorie Collins Loper**, age 96. Died November 28, 2017. Long-time member of St. Stephen's and its Altar Guild. Memorial service at Friendship Village December 11, 2017.



#### ATTENDANCE BY THE NUMBERS:

Church Attendance Average 2017: 259  
Church Attendance Average 2016: 249  
Church Attendance Average 2015: 237

Attendance Average — September to December 2017: 260  
Attendance Average — September to December 2016: 271  
Attendance Average — September to December 2015: 267  
Attendance Average — September to December 2014: 238

### LET'S CELEBRATE LIFE!

We want to celebrate significant dates in the lives of our readers, your birthday or anniversary comes to mind. So we invite you to tell us so we can publicly wish you long life and "l'chaim" here in the newsletter and all can share in the joy.

We know some of you will never admit to a particular age, and that's okay. But remember what local civic leader, Tom Swain, said, "Growing old is a privilege denied to many"!

Call Connie with the scoop at 952-893-0512 or email her at [cebrekken@icloud.com](mailto:cebrekken@icloud.com), if you are handy with a computer.

We begin this new column by wishing Bill Clynes a belated happy birthday! Bill turned 90 on November 2, 2017. His son David brought a cake to share on November 1 at the WoW community dinner, where Bill and Dave can be found most Wednesday nights. Bill says he loves to come to the Wednesday dinners because of the energy of the young people and he encourages us all to join him any Wednesday night.



*L'chaim, Bill!*

# SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

**Tuesday, February 20, 2017**  
**12 Noon in the Commons Room**

**Speaker: DANIEL AKINS**  
**“Welcome Aboard From the Cockpit”**

Dan is a pilot for American Airlines and currently flies the Dreamliner Boeing 787 from Chicago O'Hare airport to Beijing, Tokyo, Shanghai and London. He learned to fly at Flying Cloud Airport during his senior year at the University of Minnesota. Dan, a member of St. Stephen's since 1989, is known to many as the talented amateur photographer who chronicles the important events at St. Stephen's. His many hobbies besides photography include trains, from model small scale sets to those you ride on, the Masonic Lodge, Zuhrah Shrine and Scottish Rite organizations.



**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 *Friday, February 16*. (Your check is your reservation.)

The menu will be shepherd's pie (beef), green salad, assorted rolls (including gluten-free), and cherry pie a la mode for dessert.



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

**COMMUNITY UNITY SUNDAY** — Join us between services at 10 am in the Gathering Space for coffee and donuts and greet and meet someone you may not have met before.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT 3 PM

### **MARDI GRAS CONCERT & RECEPTION**

The St. Stephen's Parish choirs will perform a concert of Mardi Gras with a New York twist. A reception with Mardi Gras inspired food will follow in the Gathering Space.



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 AT 6 PM

### **FISH FRY AND BINGO**

Join us at our third annual Fish Fry and Bingo Night. Please note: space is limited as this event grows in popularity every year. So plan to buy your ticket on one of the two Sundays prior to the event.



SUNDAY, MARCH 4

**COMMUNITY UNITY SUNDAY** — Join us between services at 10 am in the Gathering Space for coffee and donuts and greet and meet someone you may not have met before.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 8:30 TO 10 AM

### **WOMEN IN FELLOWSHIP**

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). The speaker will be Fei McKhann who will speak on 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.



SUNDAY, MARCH 18 AT 3 PM

### **RECITAL WITH AMY WOLF, CLARK DUHRKOPF and BRYON WILSON**

Come hear the wonderful voices of soprano, Amy Wolf (choir member and section leader), tenor and director of music, Clark Duhrkopf, sing selections from "West Side Story" and operas, arias by Puccini and Tchaikovsky and art songs from Schubert and Strauss.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29 AT 2 PM

### **PARISH CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA CONCERT & RECEPTION**

The parish choir will perform a number of pieces including *Jubilate Deo* (setting by Dan Forrest) that they will perform in Carnegie Hall in New York City on April 15, 2018. A reception will be held in the Gathering Space after the concert.



### **ST. STEPHEN'S BOOK CLUB**

Our book club meets every month on the second Tuesday at 1:30 PM in the library. All book lovers are welcome to come and discuss the current selection. Please join us!

February	"Golden Hill" by Francis Spufford
March	"Midwives" by Chris Bohjalian
April	To be announced





## LENTEN AND EASTER SCHEDULE

**FEBRUARY 13 AT 6 PM**

### **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

The Martyrs Men's group is 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, FEBRUARY 14**

### **ASH WEDNESDAY**

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

7:00 am — in the Chapel

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.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 AT 7 PM**

### **TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE** – a service of contemplation and prayer with reflective music



### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

MONDAY, March 26 — 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

TUESDAY, March 27 — 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

WEDNESDAY, March 28 (Tenebrae Service)

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

MAUNDY THURSDAY – MARCH 29 AT 7 P.M.

7:00 pm Holy Eucharist

GOOD FRIDAY – MARCH 30

7:00 am Morning prayer with reserved sacrament

12 Noon Proper Liturgy for Good Friday

5:30 pm Children's Service - Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm Proper Liturgy for Good Friday

HOLY SATURDAY – MARCH 31

9:00 am Proper Liturgy for Holy Saturday

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

EASTER SUNDAY — APRIL 1

9:00 am Festival of Holy Eucharist with Parish Choir  
(Easter egg hunt between morning services)

11:15 am Festival of Holy Eucharist

5:00 pm Casual Service of Holy Eucharist (*In the Chapel*)



## OUR NEW SENIOR WARDEN: **SUSAN SEILER**

The Senior Warden for 2018 began her term at the annual meeting on Sunday, January 28. Every year we ask the new leader of the Vestry to tell us something about himself or herself. Here is Susan's letter to us.

I am so happy to be serving as your next Senior Warden. Larry Smith has governed as an excellent Senior Warden to St. Stephen's and was an incredible mentor to me this year. I look forward to serving the community of St. Stephen's!

### *Family:*

My family is what keeps me busy every day! My husband Ken and I have been married for almost twenty three years. We met at work when we both worked for PCL Construction in the early 90s. Ken is from eastern Wisconsin and graduated from St. John's University. He currently is a Senior Project Manager with Adolfson & Peterson. I grew up in Nebraska and California and moved to Minneapolis after graduating from University of Nebraska (Go Big Red!). We have four children. Our daughter Samantha is a junior at George Washington University in Washington DC. She is majoring in International Affairs with a minor in French and History. She spent the last seven months abroad working and studying in London and France, and we had a great time visiting her as a family in October. Margaux is a senior at Edina High School and just finished serving as the youth representative on the Vestry. She is busy applying to colleges and working and dancing at Dance Arts Centre. She is very involved with Spectrum and TEC. Ian is a sophomore at EHS. He is also involved with Spectrum, and he loves fencing (no swords in the house!), participates in Model UN at school and is an assistant ski instructor with Ski Jammers. Caroline, our youngest, is an 8th grader at Valley View Middle School. She is an avid dancer and loves to bake! We have two Portuguese water dogs, Minnie and Digger that keep us company. My mother moved here shortly before we started having children in 1997, and we are lucky to have her close by. She is also a committed member of St. David's Church in Minnetonka.

### *Involvement at St. Stephen's*

I started attending St. Stephen's shortly after arriving in Minneapolis in 1991, and it is where Ken and I were married in 1995. Ken grew up catholic and we attended both St. Stephen's and Our Lady of Grace catholic church until Samantha was born in 1997. It was then that we really committed to making St. Stephen's our church home. I was previously involved with Moms' Group (formerly Women with Young Children), children and family ministry, youth ministry. I was once a florifer (do we still have those?), and I have served on Stewardship, the Bash, Community Building Committee and a few different vestries. I also serve as a reader and lay Eucharistic minister. Five years ago, I was on the search team to find a new youth minister. This past year it has been my pleasure to be your Junior Warden and also serve on the Properties Committee.

### *Vocation and Interests*

My family is my full time job! Ken likes to say I am the Chief Operating Officer of the Seiler Family. I also help out with my mom who has a chronic health issue. When I'm not driving kids around or doing mountains of laundry, I volunteer at the schools and church, as well as a few other organizations. I also play in a tennis league, love to ski and spend any sitting time knitting. My favorite place is our cabin in Longville where we gather for food, fun and lake time.

### *Hopes for St. Stephen's*

I have gotten to work closely with Tom and Lisa this year. We are so lucky to have them both at the core of our faith life. My hope for the church is that we can fill some much needed ministry positions so that Tom and Lisa can really spread their wings and do the work that God has called them to do. I hope to support them and all of our staff. I know through experience that our church family is an amazing community, and I want to help it to continue to grow both in numbers and strength. Previous wardens have put in place focus areas for our vestry and clergy to work on. I look forward to continuing that work and clarifying which focus areas may need more strengthening and maybe a few new ones.

Please, if I haven't met you yet, introduce yourself! I am always available to listen to your thoughts and your own hopes for our wonderful community. I can be reached through the church office at 952-920-0595 or feel free to email me at [SrWarden@StStephens.com](mailto:SrWarden@StStephens.com)



The new Junior Warden is Rick Massopust



## ST. STEPHEN'S ANNUAL MEETING & BRUNCH SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018

*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 the annual meeting, here is a brief summary of what you missed.

Fr. Tom Cook called to order the St. Stephen's annual meeting during the single morning service at 10 am with the Recognition of Sacramental Markers in 2017:

Number of Baptisms:	22
Number of those confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church:	34
Number of Marriages:	8
Number of Church funerals or committals at gravesites:	16

Then well over 100 people moved across the street to the Edina Country Club where brunch was served and the business meeting was conducted.

Outgoing Sr. Warden, Larry Smith began by saying that "our community is strong, our members are deeply committed to the ministries of the church, and our future is bright!" While every year brings its share of challenges, we continue to make progress in our five focus areas:

### Stewardship of Place

Progress was made to introduce administrative and governance changes to restructure the properties committee and to evolve staffing. Many needed projects were completed including repainting, updated plumbing fixtures in some of the bathrooms, repair, cleaning and re-installation of the chapel stained glass windows and a new roof on the bell tower. At year-end we welcomed a new, full-time sexton who will work with staff and volunteers to care for our property.

### Children's and Family Ministry

This ministry thrives under the able guidance of Rev. Lisa Wiens Heinsohn. With the help of Ministry Architects as consultants, we are in the midst of a nationwide search for a new children's ministry and a new youth ministry leader.

### Communication

Molly Reichard continues to manage the huge volume of communication to our members, including weekly emails, inserts in the Sunday Bulletin, an improved website and the electronic sign outside the church.

### Welcoming Newcomers

We continue to focus on welcoming and greeting visitors on Sunday morning and a path to membership continues to evolve with get-acquainted open houses and informal gatherings called "Start Here" where visitors can ask questions and learn more about our community.

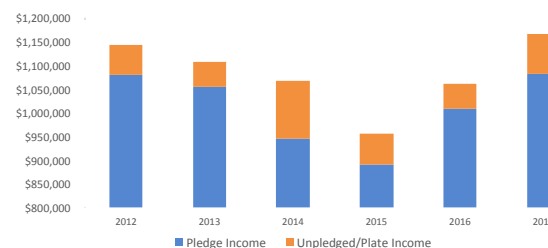
### Adult Formation

Highlights of the year include a six-week series on "Faith Foundations", a review of the basics of the Episcopal Church (attendance was outstanding!), a series of discussions on Christian parenting, Wednesday evening discussion from the series "Nooma" by Rob Bell and a Lenten mini-series with Tony Jones on the theology of the Atonement and Tony's book: "Did God Kill Jesus?".

Treasurer, Chas McKhann, presented good news on our financial condition.

- We ended the year with a surplus
- Income exceeded the budget and expenses were less than budgeted.
- Total income for 2017 was \$1,269,093
- Stewardship income (pledged and unpledged) grew by more than \$105,000 vs. 2016.
- Total pledges for 2018 received through December are \$1,045,000, which is comparable to 2017. A few additional pledges may come in.
- At present there are 221 pledges that average \$4,730 per year, up approximately 6% over last year.
- Expenses in 2017 were below budget by approximately \$100,000.
  - Biggest savings came from staffing savings, including open positions
  - Other areas of the budget were largely on track with our plans.

Stewardship Trends: 2012-2017

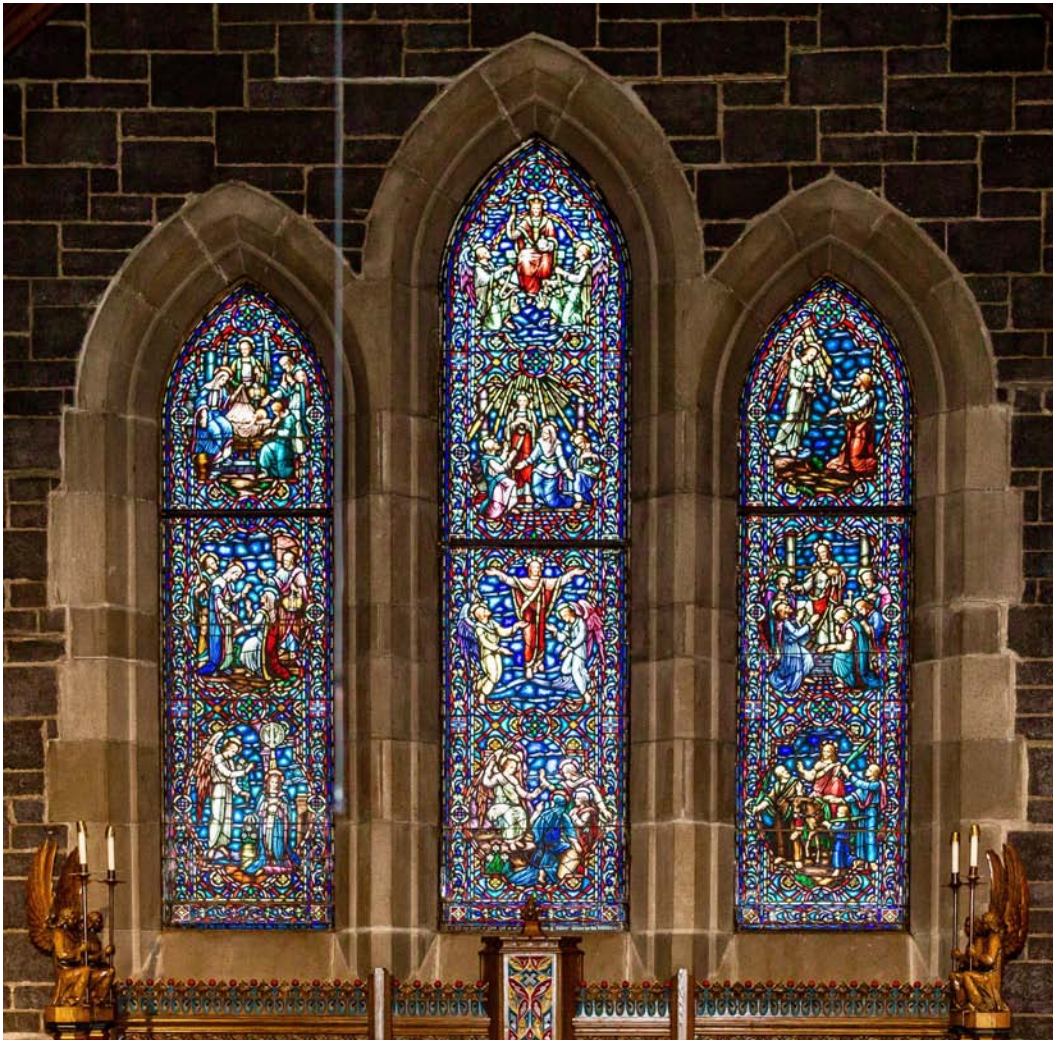


Finally, Fr. Tom announced the recipient of the Rector's Cup, which is presented annually to someone who in a behind-the-scenes way contributed to the ongoing life of the parish. This year Fr. Tom announced the cup goes to **Len Slade** for the myriad ways he serves St. Stephen's, both officially and unofficially.



## STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

The windows in the chancel seemed the logical ones to feature to begin our series on the sanctuary windows. Below is a description of the large three-panel window behind the altar. The message or story in each window reads up from the bottom or lowest panel to the top panel.



### LEFT WINDOW

**The theme of this window is *Joyous Mysteries*.**

The bottom panel is **THE ANGEL'S MESSAGE TO MARY** with the angel Gabriel standing to the left and Mary on her knees to the right. (This panel is dedicated to Mr. & Mrs. Winger Dedon.)

The middle panel is **MARY TELLS ELIZABETH** with Mary to the left and Elizabeth kneeling before her to the right.

The top panel is **JESUS' BIRTH** with Jesus in the manger and Mary and Joseph at his side.

### MIDDLE WINDOW

**The theme of this window is *Glorious Mysteries*.**

The bottom panel is **CHRIST'S RESURRECTION**. The image shows an angel appearing to three women telling them Christ is not here. (This panel is dedicated to Inan K. Foster.)

The second panel is **CHRIST'S ASCENSION**. Christ is in the center with his arms outstretched and an angel on either side.

The third panel is **WHITSUNDAY/PENTECOST**. The disciples are on their knees before Christ as the rays of the Holy Ghost shine down on them.

The top panel is **CHRIST IN HEAVEN**. Christ is seated, a crown on his head and an orb in one hand and a staff in the other.

### RIGHT WINDOW

**The theme of this window is *Sorrowful Mysteries*.**

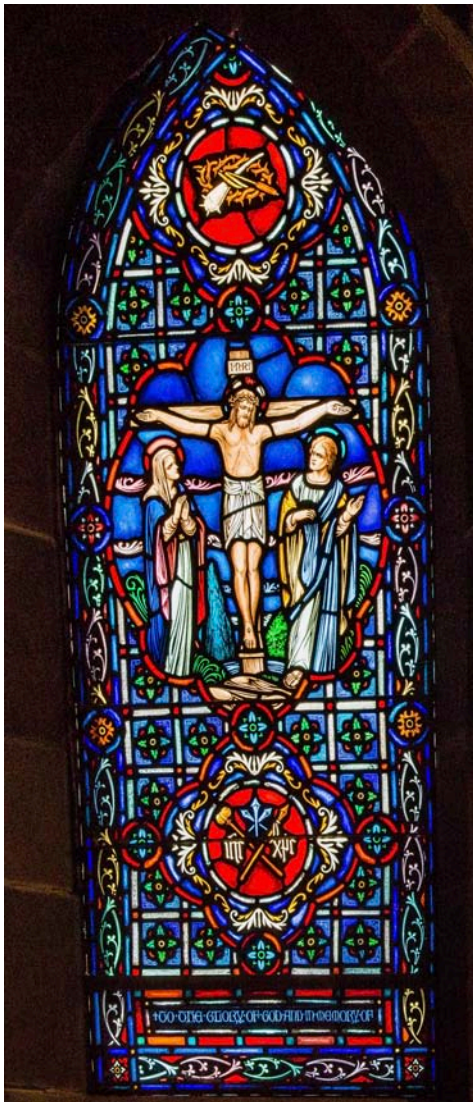
The bottom panel is **PALM SUNDAY**. Jesus is shown surrounded by the multitudes as he enters Jerusalem riding a donkey.

The middle panel is **THE LAST SUPPER**. Jesus is breaking bread surrounded by some of his disciples.

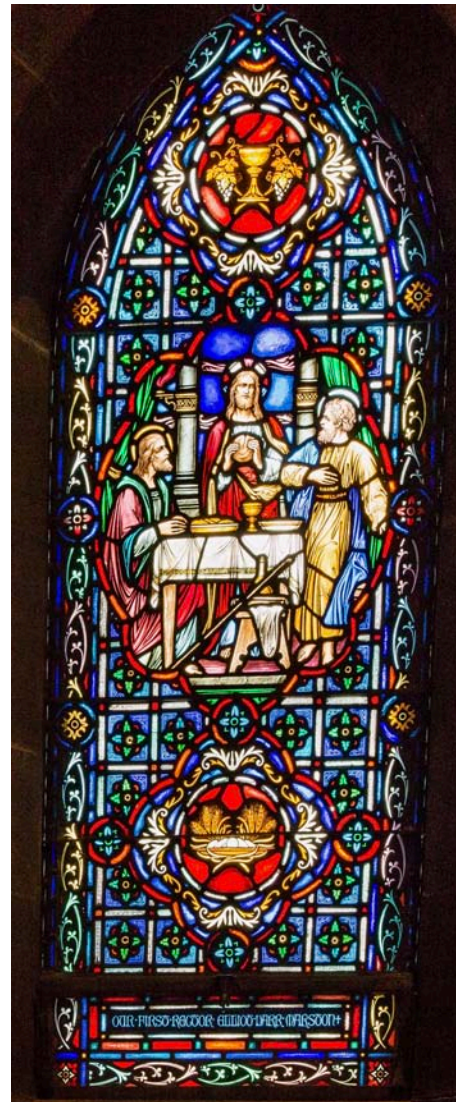
The top panel is **JESUS PRAYING AT GETHSEMANE BEFORE BETRAYAL**. Jesus is on his knees to the right with an angel to his left.



There are two other windows in the chancel to the right of the altar that are not very visible to anyone sitting in the nave. The theme of these windows is also called **Sorrowful Mysteries**. Reading across the bottom of both windows is the inscription, “**To The Glory of God and in Memory of our First Rector, Elliott Darr Marston.**”



The left window is **THE CRUCIFIXION**.  
The top panel shows a crown of thorns. The center panel is Jesus on the cross with Mary on the left and a man on the right. The bottom panel is a hammer and spear, crossed. Intertwined with them are the letters “IHR XPR” —  
*“Here is Christ.”*



The right window is **TWO TO EMMAUS**.  
The top panel has a chalice with grapes. The middle panel shows Christ breaking bread with Cleopas and an unnamed follower. The bottom panel shows wheat and bread and the letters IHS —  
*“Requiem - Rest in Peace”*



A sincere “thank you” to Keith Friede for providing the detailed description of the windows. Keith has a love for church stained glass windows going back to his childhood and many years ago searched the archives to document the themes and representations depicted in our windows.

# INSIDE OUTREACH

## BASH AFTER DARK RAISES \$45,000 FOR OUTREACH WORK!

Committee exploring ways to strengthen community partnerships in 2018.



In another remarkable show of support from the St. Stephen's community, the annual Bash After Dark raised \$45,000 for outreach grants to support programs in three primary service areas – youth issues, housing and hunger. The planning committee, particularly chairs Katie Leifur, Erica Nowak, and Annie Schilling, as well as dozens of volunteers, worked countless hours to ensure a successful event.

In 2017, Outreach grants were used near and far to help neighbors in need with food, shelter, and support. Locally, Episcobuilders, the Circle of the Beloved, Ready for Success, Good in the 'Hood, and JSAW requested and received support made possible by the Bash. Farther away, Bash dollars helped send a group of St. Stephen's youth and adults to White Earth for a week of service. And farther still, Bash dollars provided aid via the Episcopal Relief & Development Fund to those impacted by the devastating hurricanes in late 2017.

As we welcome a new year of service and new members to the committee, we will also be exploring new ways to support the community – both close to home and in other Twin Cities neighborhoods.

Grant Preschool, VEAP, Meals on Wheels and 66 West will continue to receive funding via an innovative three-year giving cycle established earlier by outgoing chair, Kate Thornton. Other organizations have submitted requests for support in 2018, and the Committee will meet in March to explore new ways to truly partner with these groups as well as provide financial support.

As the Episcopal Church in Minnesota (ECMN) moves to its new home in North Minneapolis, there is new energy and opportunity to build on and support neighborhood organizations like the Alafia Foundation as it works for change through a number of grassroots leadership and mentoring programs. ECMN recently launched its Missional Innovative Partnership (MIP) grant program, designed to pair organizations like the Alafia Foundation with individual parishes, and St. Stephen's has an opportunity to be a part of that effort. Look for more information in the coming months about this important work.

Also on the horizon, the committee has been talking with Good in the 'Hood, a 2017 grant recipient, about its Shoe Away Hunger program, and opportunities for some fun, easy and exciting ways to support their work.

All of these initiatives are possible solely because of the generosity of St. Stephen's parishioners – as donors, bidders, organizers, and volunteers at the Bash After Dark. The Outreach committee is continually humbled by and eternally grateful for this annual show of support.

*Leslie Gibson*





## *CHRISTMAS AT ST. STEPHEN'S 2017*





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

