



# The St. Stephen's Senior Newsletter

MAY, JUNE & JULY 2018

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church — Edina, Minnesota

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

Spring has *finally* arrived after the winter we thought would never end. It's hard to believe it was only three weeks ago, April 15, a day when procrastinators were finishing their taxes and the choir was singing at Carnegie Hall, when a blizzard dropped 11 inches of snow on the Twin Cities and cancelled Sunday services for the first time in the history of St. Stephen's.

But we are accustomed to coping with change, whether it is the weather or personnel arriving or leaving. It feels like our Deacon, Diane Elliott, just arrived and we are now saying goodbye as she and her husband move to Canada. She shares her feelings in our farewell article on page 7.

We also introduce our new sexton, Robert Theis, who from all reports is doing a dynamite job caring for our buildings and grounds.

So change your routine. Get outside and enjoy this long awaited warmth. We've earned it!

Connie Brekken, Editor  
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Congratulations to **Britton Cook** for completing her first Boston Marathon with a time of 4:01:20.

In spite of miserable weather — constant downpour, strong wind, mud and a high of only 42° — Britton still says, "The event was fantastic!"





## 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



### COME JOIN THE ST. STEPHEN'S SUMMER SINGERS Sundays, June 11 - September 3, 2018

One rehearsal at 9 a.m. for our Offertory Anthem, Hymn & Service Music leading to the 10:00 Service.

If you ever wanted to do a little singing in a choir, come join the Summer Singers. Every song we sing this summer will be One Part Unison or Two Part Harmony. Very "singable" for any age. No Robes - Just Nice Sunday Casual.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

**Questions? Call Clark Duhrkopf,  
Director of Music Ministry 952-920-0595**

## SENIOR FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

### NEEDS A FEW MORE GOOD MEMBERS

The Senior Fellowship luncheons that happen four times a year are brought to you by the Senior Fellowship Committee—a group of happy seniors who meet four times a year to think of interesting speakers and programs and decide on tempting menus.

They decide on dates for the luncheons and set up the Commons Room or the Gathering Space for the luncheon and have a good time discussing all sorts of relevant ideas.

One such idea is that we would do well to have a few more good senior members. If you would like to join this committee or know someone who would, please contact Jane Parry at [jparry@minn.net](mailto:jparry@minn.net) or call her at 952-926-1667, before 7 pm, please.

## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**BEGINNING SUNDAY MAY 27** we change to the Summer Worship Schedule:

8:00 AM — Worship in the Chapel (a quiet liturgy – no music – and a sermon to begin the day)

10:00 AM — Worship in the Church (familiar hymns, summer choir, and a sermon)

We return to the Winter Worship Schedule on Sunday, September 9.

## In Remembrance. . .

### Of Current Members

**Jean Williams Peetz**, age 96. Died February 18, 2018. Memorial service February 28 at Friendship Village. Sister of Barbara Curry.

**Nancy Smith Elleby**, age 92. Died March 22, 2018. Memorial service at a future date.

**Claire Lucille Storey**, age 84. Died April 4, 2018. Interment at St. Stephen's Peace Garden at a later date.



# SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON

**Tuesday, May 22, 2018**

**12 Noon in the Commons Room**

**Speaker: HAROLD WIENS**  
**“Ignorance, Change and Results”**



Harold Wiens and his wife, Claudia, parents of our assistant rector, Lisa Wiens Heinsohn.

Our speaker, Harold Wiens, had a long career with 3M Company, including positions in Belgium and as Managing Director of Sumitomo 3M in Tokyo, Japan, concluding as Executive Vice President of 3M's Industrial Business.

Since then he has served on corporate and nonprofit boards, including BioTechne, Bethel University, and Presbyterian Homes. He is also a father, grandfather and beekeeper.

Harold says, "No matter where I did business or lived, there were some basics that were always there. From a business point of view they can be summed up in two questions: What do you offer and whom do you serve? If you really think about and can answer those questions, it simplifies a lot. These questions have a lot to do, not just with business, but with life."

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

To make a reservation mail your check (payable to St. Stephen's Church) to St. Stephen's Church, 4439 W. 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Edina, MN 55424, 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, May 18*. (Your check is your reservation.)

The menu will be potato salad, coleslaw, assorted sandwiches, a relish tray, and brownies and lemon bars for dessert.



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

**SUNDAY, MAY 6**

**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.

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**SATURDAY, MAY 12, 8:30 TO 10 AM**

### **WOMEN IN FELLOWSHIP**

Women In Fellowship is an intergenerational gathering of women where one woman will share her spiritual journey, refreshing us, inspiring us in our own journeys. Our mission is to provide an environment for women to unite, to share, to exchange ideas and grow together spiritually, focusing on God's will for our lives.

We look forward to **Amelia Arthur** sharing her faith journey. Amelia is the Program Director for Circle of the Beloved, the Episcopal Service Corps affiliate in Minnesota. Also, Amelia is finishing her M.Div. at Luther Seminary and is in the ordination process for priesthood through the Episcopal Church in Minnesota.

Continental breakfast begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Commons Room and the program begins at 9:00 a.m. Bring something to share or just come and join us. All women are welcome.

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**SUNDAY MAY 20, AT 3 PM**

### **CREEKSIDE RINGERS CONCERT & RECEPTION**

The Bell Choir will present a special concert with pieces that begin with Advent and go through spring ending with a Salute for the military memorial week. The program will include a recorder duo and Clark Duhrkopf on the flute.

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**SUNDAY MAY 20, 1 TO 3 PM**

### **FAREWELL OPEN HOUSE TO REV. DIANE ELLIOTT**

Join us at Geoff and Janny Gothro's home to wish our deacon, Diane Elliott, best wishes as she leaves to embark on a new adventure. RSVPs are strongly encouraged. Call the church office to make a reservation at 952-920-0595.

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 3**

**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.

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**WEDNESDAY, JULY 4, BEGINNING AT 9 A.M.**

### **HOT DOGS AND JAZZ ON THE LAWN**

Come watch the annual Edina Fourth of July Parade march past St. Stephen's. Bring a chair or blanket, sunscreen or hat, your appetite and your patriotic enthusiasm. St. Stephen's will again provide free hot dogs, lemonade and freezie pops to parade watchers. Enjoy listening to Clark Duhrkopf and the jazz group *AfterJazz* who will provide music from 9 a.m. until the parade arrives.

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### **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!

May 8	"Small Great Things" by Jodi Picault
June 12	"Buddha in the Attic" by Julie Otsuka
July 10	"Last Train to Paradise" by Les Standiford





## CHOIR SINGS IN CARNEGIE HALL – AGAIN!

Members of our wonderful parish choir traveled to New York City in April to join other choirs from around the world to sing a variety of pieces in the Stern Auditorium on the Perelman Stage. This is the third time they have been invited by the Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) to perform in one of the most famous concert halls in the world.

The first time our Director of Music, Clark Duhrkopf, received an invitation was in 2013 for a performance scheduled in January 2014. The invitation was to the Carpe Diem Vocal Ensemble, a group Clark founded that included a number of members of the parish choir. Clark was understandably skeptical when he received an email from DCINY, but when he called the phone number provided, it wasn't a prank, it truly was Carnegie Hall calling. They joined eleven other ensembles to perform the music of Welsh composer Karl Jenkins. They sang the U.S. premiere of Jenkins' *The Bard of Wales* and the composer's *Stabat Mater*. The international chorus included singers from the U.S., Canada, The Netherlands, France, Hong Kong, and Argentina.



Because our vocalists displayed great preparation at that performance, they were the first group invited in the spring of 2015 to return for a concert on January 25, 2016, with eight other choral groups where they sang the world premiere of Carol Barnett and Marisha Chamberlain's *Mortals & Angels: A Bluegrass Te Deum*. The concert was memorable, but so was the record snowfall two days before of 26.8" in New York City's Central Park.



With that history, it may have come as a surprise to Clark (but not to the rest of us) that DCINY issued a third invitation to return and sing in Carnegie Hall. This performance, just completed on April 15, featured seven pieces on the program but the most difficult one was Dan Forrest's *Jubilate Deo*, set to Psalm 100, "O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands". Movements include liturgical Latin, Hebrew and Arabic, Mandarin Chinese, Zulu, Spanish, Song of the Earth and a closing movement combining several of these languages with English. The choir has been practicing the piece for seven months — since last September.



For those who weren't able to travel to hear them in Carnegie Hall, the choir and orchestra held a spring concert on Sunday afternoon, April 29, in which they sang the Dan Forrest piece, *Jubilate Deo*, that they performed in New York, as well as *Song of Wisdom* from the book "Old Turtle" by Douglas Wood. A reception of punch and desserts followed the concert.

Aren't we fortunate to have such talent at St. Stephen's?!





## MEET OUR NEW SEXTON ROBERT THEIS

*In the Anglican tradition we hire Sextons, not building custodians. The Oxford English dictionary defines the word **Sexton** as “a person who looks after a church and churchyard, typically acting as bell-ringer and gravedigger”. At St. Stephen’s our Sexton does not ring bells nor does he dig graves, but he is responsible for the church and churchyard.*

*The word’s first known use was in the 14<sup>th</sup> century – Middle English “secresteyn, sexteyn”, from Anglo-French segrestein, from Medieval Latin sacristanus.*

Our new sexton had to hit the ground running on his first day on the job, January 22, when he was welcomed with 12 inches of snow to shovel. But he quickly cleared the sidewalks, the first of many times this winter and has been learning about our church and the job responsibilities every day since.

Robert Theis (“Tice”) has 32 years experience in property care and management and finds the change to St. Stephen’s interesting and challenging. He has worked at a number of apartment buildings in the metro area and has managed a condominium at Brookside Court in Edina for nineteen years where he lives with his wife, Betsy, and their Chihuahua, “Pup”. He and Betsy were married in the Black Hills, South Dakota, his favorite place on earth.

We are fortunate Robert only lives five minutes away from the church. He recently made an emergency trip to respond to a report of a gas smell and found six pilot lights out on the stove in the kitchen.

Robert grew up in rural Mankato with three sisters and four brothers, one of whom is his twin brother. After graduating from Mankato High School, he joined the United States Marine Corps for three years and did training at Camp Pendleton, Twenty Nine Palms, Coronado, Okinawa and Japan – talk about climate change!

His first job working in a senior apartment building was a wonderful experience. Robert says, “I learned much more than building maintenance. Spending time with the residents and hearing their life stories and lessons was a growing experience for me and I treasured every minute with them.”

When not at work at St. Stephen’s, Robert likes to bike around the lakes and trails. He also likes to read about military history or watch military documentaries. Any vets reading this, take note...Robert never turns down the opportunity to visit with other veterans about their experiences in their branch of service.

During his first three months as Sexton, Robert says, “Everyone has been kind and very appreciative of what has been accomplished so far and for that I am very grateful.”

The Sexton ministers to the church through the care of facilities and grounds for the support of the overall life and ministry of St. Stephen’s Church. It is a full-time position and part of the program staff and is liaison to the Properties Committee, responsible for managing projects approved by the Vestry.

Robert does not work a nine to five job but if you want to meet him, he usually can be found every Sunday overseeing coffee and donuts between services in the Gathering Space. Stop by and introduce yourself and welcome him to St. Stephen’s.

## FAREWELL TO OUR DEACON REV. DIANE ELLIOTT



"I love being a Deacon."

Our Deacon, Rev. Diane Elliott, will be departing St. Stephen's the end of May. Her husband, Stephen Elliott, is retiring after seven years as Director and CEO of the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul, and they are moving to Wainfleet, Ontario, Canada, about 40 miles west of Niagara Falls.

They have a property on Lake Erie that they have been renovating for the past several years. They have always planned to retire to this property and it is right next door to her mother's home. Diane says, "Ever since I was a little girl living with my grandparents in the summer to get away from the New York heat, I have loved this house. I was very close to the woman who lived there and always dreamed that someday I would live happily ever after in this beautiful house on the beautiful lake with my Price Charming. For me, in so many ways, it is a dream come true."

Her dream continues to come true in that she has been called to serve in the Anglican Church of Canada. Bishop Michael Bird has appointed her to serve as Deacon at Christ Church where they will be living in Wainfleet. "I will be doing what I feel I have

always been called to do and what I love to do more than anything in the world. And living next door to my mother, I will be better able to help in her caretaking."

Diane says,

*"We have been blessed to have been part of a fabulous organization here – YOUR Minnesota Historical Society, which is indeed the best Historical Society in our nation. Stephen has loved his time here and it has been the perfect capstone to his forty-five years in the History Museum Field. I am so very proud of the contributions he has made to the Society and he has loved being a part of it all. Minnesota has been very good to us.*

*We leave one of our most precious gifts with you, our daughter Lizzie. She will continue to be very involved with TEC as she serves on the committee that is imagining what the future of TEC might be.*

*These last two years have been beyond anything I ever could have imagined. You welcomed me into your community as your Deacon but I feel now as if I have always been part of your family. It is the goodbyes that will be the hardest part for me. Know that I will always love you. I will never forget you. And, I will continue to pray for you each and every day.*

*Amen and Amen"*

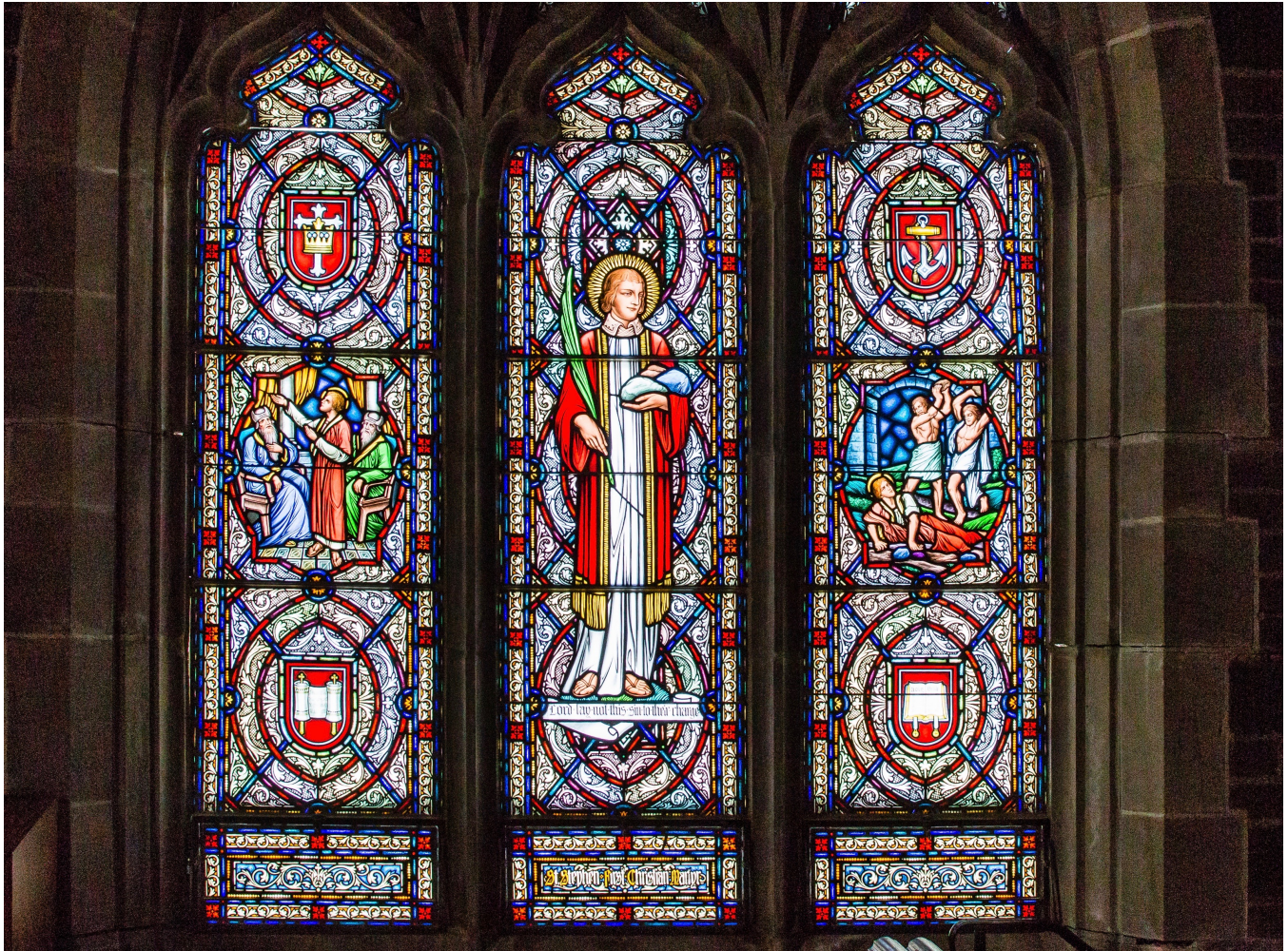
We will celebrate Diane at a church service in May and there will also be an open house at which you can bid farewell to her and to Stephen. It will be held on Sunday, May 20, from 1 to 3 pm at the home of Geoff and Janny Gothro (6740 Chalice Ct., Edina). Reservations are strongly encouraged so call the church office to RSVP.





## STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

In our continuing description of the beautiful windows in the sanctuary, we are featuring the three-panel window in the balcony that shows ***The Martyrdom of St. Stephen***. This window was installed in the early 1950s. Most of the cost of this window came from contributions from the whole congregation rather than from a family or an individual. It was considered a parish-wide undertaking.



### LEFT WINDOW

This panel shows St. Stephen defending his faith before the Jewish senate.

At the top are a cross and crown, symbols of a martyr's death.

At the bottom is an image of the Old Testament scrolls, representing the laws and teachings upheld by the Sanhedrin, the council of rabbis.

### CENTER WINDOW

This panel shows the victorious St. Stephen. He is clothed in the traditional robes of a deacon, as developed in the later church. Stephen is the patron saint of deacons and stonemasons.

In one hand he bears a palm branch, the symbol of martyrdom. In the other hand he holds stones, symbols of his manner of death.

Below St. Stephen are the words, "*Lord, lay not this sin to their charge*".

The small window at the base of the panel reads, "St. Stephen, First Christian Martyr".

### RIGHT WINDOW

This panel portrays the death of St. Stephen by stoning.

At the top of the panel is an anchor. This symbol is very old and represents hope (navigation and safety).

At the bottom is a Bible indicating the Old and New Testaments.





Each May, the St. Stephen's Fund Committee hosts **BRIDGE BUILDERS SUNDAY** to inform parish members about a special way of giving and to honor and thank past and present members of our parish family who have made a gift of cash, property, or a bequest in their will or estate to help provide for the long term financial needs of the parish. This body of givers is called "Bridge Builders."

Their legacy gifts create and sustain an **endowment fund** from which only a portion of the annual growth of the fund is withdrawn to help fund parish needs, thereby ensuring that the fund will continue to "bear fruit" in perpetuity. In 2017, for example, the St. Stephen's Fund contributed \$153,087 to help fund the parish budget and to help support several other designated parish initiatives. Donors can specify their gifts be directed to the General Fund or to one or more designated ministries. In 2017, fund distributions were given to support Children and Adult Ministries, Worship, Outreach, Music, Properties & Garden.

The role of the St. Stephen's Fund Committee is to oversee the actions of our professional fund managers (the Episcopal Church Foundation and State Street Global Advisors), to review monthly fund performance, and to decide, based on the fund manager's recommendation, what a prudent contribution from the endowment fund to the parish will be each year to each named ministry.

**This year Bridge Builders Sunday will be on May 20.** You are invited to come to the Commons Room between services. You'll enjoy a light breakfast and learn about Bridge Builders' important role in St. Stephen's' past, present, and future. The event traditionally ends with a reading of a tender poem composed by Will Allen Dromgoole and selected by the late Jim Curry to represent the ideals embodied by the generosity and concerns of our Bridge Builders:

*"An old man, going a lone highway, came at the evening cold and gray  
to a chasm, vast and deep and wide, through which was flowing a sullen tide.  
The old man crossed in the twilight dim – that sullen stream had no fears for him;  
But he turned, when he reached the other side, and built a bridge to span the tide.  
"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near, you are wasting strength in building here.  
Your journey will end with the ending day; You never again must pass this way.  
You have crossed the chasm, deep and wide, Why build a bridge at the eventide?"*

*The builder lifted his old gray head. "Good friend, in the path I have come," he said,  
There followeth after me today a youth whose feet must pass this way.  
This chasm that has been naught to me to that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.  
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim; Good friend, I am building the bridge for **him**."*

# INSIDE OUTREACH

## OUTREACH AWARDS GRANTS TO:

**ALAFIA FOUNDATION**

**GIVING VOICE CHORUS**

**GOOD IN THE 'HOOD.**



On Tuesday, April 10, the Outreach Committee had the extraordinary privilege to unanimously approve and award three grants in one evening. **The Alafia Foundation, Giving Voice Chorus, and Good in the 'Hood** all received funding for 2018, and it made for an exciting, gratifying night!



Future articles from Outreach will focus on the important work of Alafia and Giving Voice; this month, I'd like to introduce you to **Good in the 'Hood**, specifically to their innovative **Shoe Away Hunger program**.

Did you know that 1 in 10 Minnesotans are food insecure, lacking consistent access to healthy food? In addition to

food insecurity, many of those same families struggle with being able to afford adequate footwear.

Shoe Away Hunger collects gently-used, donated shoes, then sells them for a suggested donation via their two Mobile Shoe Stores – refurbished buses that were donated to the organization through a partnership with Schuler Shoes. The buses travel throughout the Twin Cities, selling shoes for \$1 - \$5 per pair.

For each pair of shoes sold, Shoe Away Hunger can provide a week's worth of food for one person through their Feeding the Future programs, and they provide a much-needed resource for the community, ensuring that everyone has access to affordable shoes.

It's an amazing way to eliminate hunger on a "Shoe-String Budget!"

St. Stephen's will be hosting a Shoe Drive from May 6 through May 20, with two collection barrels at the church to accept gently used (or new!) shoes. As you're sprucing up your closets for spring, we hope you'll consider supporting the Shoe Drive with shoes you no longer want or need. Shoes and boots — summer and winter — for men, women and children are welcome. (If you miss the drive, shoes are collected year round at all Schuler Shoes locations.)

St. Stephen's parishioners David Cooper and Ruth Taylor are longtime supporters of Good in the 'Hood, working behind the scenes to assist the organization with strategic planning and other business initiatives. David will address the congregation on Sunday, May 6, to kick off the shoe drive, and will be available to answer any questions about the organization and their work.

We're hoping to schedule a visit from the Mobile Shoe Store later this year to allow St. Stephen's parishioners to get a closer look at this creative, efficient fundraising effort, and to meet Rev. Shawn Morrison, executive director of Good in the 'Hood.

Stay tuned!

*Leslie Gibson*





## FEBRUARY SENIOR FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON



*"Children learn to smile from their parents."  
Shinichi Suzuki*



*"With mirth and laughter let old wrinkles  
come."*

*William Shakespeare*



*There is no friend like an old friend who has shared our morning days, no greeting like his welcome, no homage like his praise.*

*Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.*

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

## LIFE AT ST. STEPHEN'S APRIL 2018



Easter April 1, 2018



Teens Encounter Christ...  
and the Bishop.



Rev. Anna V. Ostenso Moore,  
daughter of Jane & Brian Ostenso,  
visited and led the service on  
Sunday, April 22. Pictured with Rev.  
Lisa Wiens Heinsohn and Deacon,  
Diane Elliott.