

ST. STEPHEN'S NEWS

Sunday, April 12, 2026

The Second Sunday of Easter

Thomas Sunday

WELCOME!

If you are worshipping at St. Stephen's for the first time today, you are welcome to share in the Holy Communion. Please fill out a "Visitor" card at one of the Greeters tables and/or the guest book on the podium before you leave and get a welcome packet.

COMMUNION

If you are in need of a gluten free wafer during Communion, please let an usher know before the offertory or let one of the persons serving the host know. If you have a mobility problem, please let an usher know before the service begins and communion will be brought to you.

LOOKING FORWARD



<https://tinyurl.com/2yh8fn4p>

Dinners for 8 — Sign-Ups Now until April 12

It's time for a new round of Dinners for 8! We invite both new and returning participants to sign up for the coming year. Groups will be arranged after the sign-up period closes on April 12, and participants will receive their new group assignments by email. We look forward to another year of good food and fellowship!

If you are unfamiliar, groups of 8 are formed - this could be couples or singles - and, over dinner, gives you an opportunity to meet, socialize, and get to know some new people you may not know. Each group would meet at least 4 times per year, and each couple or single would take turns hosting dinner which can be at your home, in the park, at a restaurant, etc. Generally, the host provides the main course, and others bring side dishes, appetizers, and dessert.

Please sign up by either using the QR code or emailing Sheri Flay at ybandsf@sbcglobal.net by

April 12 so that we can form the groups and get the information out to everyone by the end of October. Question? Sheri Flay: (805) 660-7811 or email to address above.



"Resurrection Hope!" Retreat

Resurrection is God's refusal to give up on us. St. Stephen's is happy to welcome the Rev. Payton Hoegh, as our guest speaker for "Resurrection Hope", a spiritual retreat on Saturday, April 25th, from 9:00am — 12:30pm. Everyone is invited to attend!

The Rev. Hoegh will open the retreat, offer one of several workshops and celebrate the closing Eucharist with us. Other workshops include Neurographic Art Prayer, an outdoor labyrinth, Praying in Color, creating gratitude bracelets, filling the "Hope" Tree, plus opportunities for reflection, journaling and prayer.

Hosted by the Daughters of the King, our retreat will be held at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

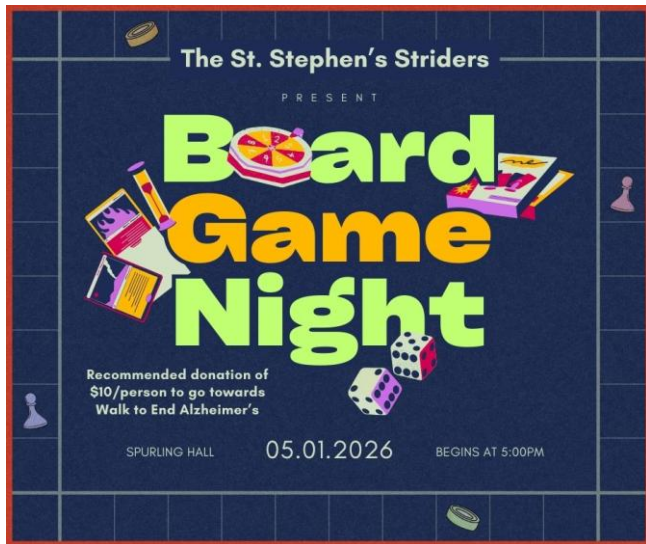
There is no program fee — everyone is invited to bring donations, as you are able, of canned goods or laundry supplies for our community outreach programs.

Please RSVP with the QR Code

or this link: <https://tinyurl.com/2s4crv6c>

For more information, please contact either Kathleen Jensen at jensencurl@gmail.com or Mary Jo Higginbotham at maryjohigg@gmail.com





The St. Stephen Striders are hosting their first board game night to raise money for the Walk to End Alzheimer's! All are welcome to join in Spurling Hall on Friday, May 1st at 5pm. Please bring your favorite board and card games to share! Pizza will be provided; please feel free to also bring dishes and drinks to accompany. There is a recommended donation of \$10/person to support the cause. Questions can be directed to Sarah Simmons: 618-292-7407. We hope to see you there!



If you wish to have your birthday or anniversary prayed for during Sunday services or if you would like a white rose to signify a death in your family or a red rose to signify a birth in your family, please email Tracy in the Church office at office@st-stephens.org no later than 5:00pm on Thursdays with all of the relevant details.



GIVING TO ST. STEPHEN'S

If you are able to continue supporting the mission and ministry of St. Stephen's, you can pay your pledge or make a new or recurring donation online here st-stephens.org/giving. You can also text your donation by texting the word GIVE to 661.228.8909 and following the prompts. Click here for an easy [How To Use Text Giving guide](#). We are deeply grateful for your commitment and support.

St. Stephen's Prayer List

Current Needs: Joanne, Vickie, Innocent victims of global and domestic conflicts and wars, especially in the U.S., Israel, Iran war, Jim and Judy, Laura, Trudy, Gayle, Lisa and Lou, Lella, Eliza, Janet, Gail, Summer, Bill, John and the Nelson family, Marie, Lilly, Nevelle, Jess, Patrick, Amy, Dolores and family, Steve, Heather, Maria, Jerome, Joy and Dennis, Nancy, Angela, Brendan, Avery, Don, Ms. Monica, Greg, Debbie, Linda, Theresa, Terry, Hank, and their family, Haley, Moses, Roger, Kira, Delfred, Trish, Duke, Ron, Jim, Ken and Sara, Rebecca, Tom, Faye, Roger and Jennie, Jeff B., Jose Manuel, Shireen, Peggy, Sandy H., Fred C., Linda, Carlos and the Tuck/Nold families, Rosemary, **Cecilia, Barbara, Jenny, Kevin, Brisa, Sandra, Claudia, Jim, Mary, Jeremy, Paula, Madelyn**

Rest in Peace: Sharon Legg, Judy Putnam, Michael Audino, Lella Dvorak, Maria Borelli, Ken Tuck, **James Andrew Hedge**

If you would like to have prayers for yourself or someone else, please email Peggy Stabile at pstable@pegasus2.net or call the church office at 661.259.7307. Please be aware that your prayer request content will be shared with the members of the prayer chain. If you wish for Peggy to hold your prayer request in confidence, please clarify that in your submission. Prayer requests remain active for 4 weeks and must be renewed thru Peggy or the office to be on the list again.

St. Stephen's Week		April 12, 2026 to April 19, 2026	
TODAY'S SERVICE		7:45 & 10:30 AM	
SUNDAY 4/12	VPOD: Jared Simmons		
7:45am	Holy Eucharist		
10:30am	Holy Eucharist (also livestreamed via Facebook live)		
10:30am	Sunday School / Spurling Hall		
12:00pm	Daughters of the King / Lounge		
MONDAY 4/13			
6:45pm	Troop 2019 / Spurling Hall		
TUESDAY 4/14			
6:30pm	Finance Committee meeting / Spurling Hall		
WED. 4/15			
7:00am	Holy Eucharist followed by breakfast		
9:30am	Circle of Gratitude / Zoom		
6:00pm	EfM / Room 8		
THURS. 4/16			
9:30am	Book Study Group / Sacristy		
6:30pm	Troop 2222 / Spurling Hall		
7:30pm	Parish Choir rehearsal / Church		
FRIDAY 4/17			
SAT. 4/18			
NEXT SUNDAY 4/19		VPOD: John Alexopoulos	
7:45am	Holy Eucharist		
10:30am	Holy Eucharist (also livestreamed via Facebook live)		
10:30am	Sunday School / Spurling Hall		
12:00pm	YESS / Youth Room		