



Week of April 11—April 17, 2021

CASTING OUR NET

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Website: ststephensnewharmony.org

Facebook: [New Harmony St. Stephen's Episcopal Church](https://www.facebook.com/NewHarmonySt.StephensEpiscopalChurch)

You may give online by visiting our website or by texting SSNH to 73256 (REALM)

Dear St. Stephen's Community,
I greet you in the name of our Risen Lord with a heart filled of gratitude. We had a beautiful Easter Service, followed by a week of well-earned rest for our musicians and tech folks. Will White (my son) even made it to a drive-in service at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. And last but not least, our administrator, Margie Waible, is recovering from a small heart attack and is back in the office. Wow, just WOW!

We are reprinting two items from the Diocesan Newsletter regarding regathering guidelines and Pathways. Our current practices are already in line with these newly released guidelines and we will begin live-streaming from the parish house (leadership only) this Sunday. Our goal is to be gathered as a congregation, socially distanced, in the parish house on Pentecost, which is May 23rd. My tracking spreadsheet indicates that, by then, all of us who are eligible with have been fully immunized and I believe that we will be past any possible spring break surge.

The second item is that we have been chosen to be a Pathways Parish. This means that for the next two years, starting in July, we will have the privilege of the presence of the Rev. Dr. Joanna Benskin in a quarter time position. She will serve St. Paul's Evansville the other three quarters. The vision is for her to be with us one half day a week and one Sunday a month. Her position is funded by the diocese as part of the Pathways initiative. We will need a committee to work with her (3-5 people) over the first year and I am sure we will get much more out of this than we will ever put in.

Eastertide Blessings!

God's peace,

Beth+



An Eagle Eye View of the Easter Service



WHEN WILL WE RETURN TO THE CHURCH??

THE SHORT ANSWER IS: WHEN WE ARE ABLE TO LIVESTREAM SERVICES FROM THE CHURCH, a complicated and costly project. We are in the process of applying for grants but they will not cover the entire cost. IF YOU WANT TO DONATE OVER AND ABOVE YOUR PLEDGE TO HELP US GET BACK INTO THE CHURCH, WE WOULD BE THRILLED TO RECEIVE YOUR DONATION. You may donate by check (write "Technology" in the memo line), or online by selecting the 'drop down arrow box' designation: "Technology".

In the meantime, the new guidelines permit us to: put candles back in the votive stands, put prayer books and hymnals back in the pews. Rich and Margaret Diemer have graciously agreed to do the candles in the votive stand. If you would like to help with the many other things, please contact Dr. Beth.

Revised Diocesan Regathering Guidelines Released

Bishop Jennifer today released revised guidelines for diocesan churches:



When Dr. Anthony Fauci held a teleconference with bishops of the Episcopal Church in August, he advised us that the way back to normal for our COVID-19-ravaged country was through masks and vaccines. Today, over a year into this pandemic, we can see the shimmer of post-pandemic times on the horizon as vaccines roll out to younger populations. We are also learning that the COVID-19 pandemic, and its variants, will be part of our new normal and new surges will remain a threat. As we seek to balance the desire to gather in person for worship and community with public health risks, this revision to our diocesan guidelines will shape the way forward. Our conditions will continue to evolve, and we will make any necessary updates to these guidelines in June.

You read the letter from Bishop Jennifer and download the guidelines at this link: <https://indydio.org/5040-2/>

Welcome Joanna Benskin: Our Shared Pathways Priest!

The Rev. Dr. Joanna Benskin has been called as the diocese's new Pathways priest. The position, funded by Lilly Endowment as part of the Pathways to Vitality Initiative, provides a recent seminary graduate with the opportunity to serve under clergy mentors at two diocesan parishes. The Pathways parishes for the third and final year of the grant are St. Paul's, Evansville and St. Stephen's, New Harmony.

Benskin is currently finishing her master of divinity degree at Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, California. She was ordained a deacon in December, and will return to Indiana in June to be ordained a priest.

Benskin, who holds a doctorate in comparative literature from Purdue University, comes to her position with a background in teaching. She says she feels especially drawn toward community building, adult formation, and engagement with scripture. Benskin and her husband, Brian, have two cats. She enjoys hiking, Dungeons & Dragons and baking, and is likely to offer sourdough starter to unsuspecting bystanders.



Outdoor Easter Worship 2021

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Date	Leaders / Event	Lector	Intercessor	Facebook Greeter	Zoom Service Coordinator	ZOOM Coffee Hour Time Host
<u>April 18</u> 3 rd Sunday of Easter	Dr. Beth Service of the Word	Richard / Phyllis	Linda Warrum	Ken & Peggy	Jacob Mumford	Dr. Beth
<u>April 25</u> 4 th Sunday of Easter	Morning Prayer with Cindy	Officiant: Bish Lector: Liz	Karen Seal	Mike & Hope	Jacob Mumford	Mike & Hope

Updated 4/12/2021

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

April 18

Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

April 25, 2021

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18



Adult Education

We ask for Continued Prayers:

The church, its members, and its mission; The nation and all in authority; The welfare of the world; Tyson; Odessa; Kay; Luke; Sherman; Margie; The Higgins Family; Marla, Keith, Eli & Zaleigh Sizemore; Barbara Macke; Brittany & the Buzzard family; Jane Yancy Kerley & family who lost their home & Belongings to a family house fire

And for those serving in the Military:

EB; Alex; Caitlyn; Brady; Jackson; Tessa; All who serve

And for Safety in Travel for:

All truck drivers and delivery persons

Blessings:

A beautiful Easter; All who brought beautiful music To our Easter service

For those who celebrate Birthdays in April:

April 18 – David Cox
April 25 – Terri Hall

Those who have died:

All who have died from COVID 19; Those who have died from violence; Pamela Hancock; Jackson Higgins; Robert Wehmer; James Buzzard

Those serving in our Diocese:

Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, our Bishop; Mauricio, Bishop of our companion Diocese of Brasilia; our companions at Transfiguration Church in Nuevo Progreso, in the Diocese of Southeastern Mexico and their Bishop, Julio; for the people of the Diocese of Haiti, especially Saint Andrew's Parish in Mithon, for the Venerable Jean Michelin.

FOOD PANTRY



Tuesday Truck from Tri-State Food Bank arrives between 9 am – 10 am
Wednesday Prep work 9am – 11 am at Community Center
Thursday Give out – 1 pm – 6 pm

Ken Back

THANK YOU to everyone for your cards, emails, text messages, flowers, and especially your prayers during my recent hospitalization.
Margie Waible



We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers.

1 Thessalonians 1:2