



Week of November 21—November 27, 2021

CASTING OUR NET

ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PO Box 173, 512 Granary St. New Harmony, IN 47631 (812)682-4604

Website: ststephensnewharmony.org

Facebook: New Harmony St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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

Dear St. Stephen's Community,

It is a blessing beyond words to know that we are successfully worshipping both in church and online as well. The vestry has approved what will hopefully be the final expenses for this project this year and I am so grateful for the leadership and flexibility.

Before the pandemic, our organist Sara Pfister, and I had a discussion about her declining health. Sara has met with Jacob Mumford to make some recordings in the past year and a half (which is the only way we can record music played on our organ). At the same time, Sara has also expressed concern about her ability to continue playing for Sunday morning services. In my most recent conversation with Sara, she was clear that these concerns have not abated and therefore, she will no longer be our organist. The Mumfords are still willing to volunteer to play two Sundays each month but this leaves a gap for a congregation that, frankly, loves to sing. I realize that this is yet another source of grief in our community and I hold all of us up in prayer as we work through this.

We would love to have another live organist. We will still strive to have an in person organist for special occasions and the proposed budget for 2022 reflects that hope. However, the number of organists available have declined because of the larger trends in church worship music. The shift to more contemporary music means that a number of colleges that used to train organists no longer do so. And as the currently trained organists age, their numbers are declining rapidly.

For our worship, we will incorporate the library of pre-recorded music that the Mumford Family has graciously provided at no cost to us. In addition, the vestry has approved and funds have been provided to purchase a collection of recorded music (with no additional copyrights) for us to use. St. John's Episcopal Church in Washington, Indiana has used this collection for two years with great success. We will begin using it ourselves in Advent.

In this Thanksgiving week, I give thanks for all the wonderful things, including music, that we have. I pray for your safety and health as you travel and gather in whatever fashion you have chosen.

God's peace,

Beth+



Drs. Joanna & Beth in Maclure Park with a bandstand view of the Majestic Maple

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*** ANNOUNCEMENTS ***

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

7:00 p.m. Wednesday, at the Nazarene Church, 531 Steam Mill St.

***** ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued) *****

PLEDGE CARDS & STATEMENTS have gone out. If corrections need to be made, please contact the church office. Thank you.

“SOCK IT TO ME BASKET” for PATCHWORK CENTRAL

Patchwork Central is running low on travel-sized shampoos and deodorant for the shower guests. The “Sock it to me” donation bucket and basket have been placed in the back of the church. Vestry decided that both socks and toiletries donations will go to Patchwork Central. We will collect the items until Sunday, December 12th

THANK YOU for your additions and corrections to our parish directory.

VOLUNTEER RAKERS AND LEAF BLOWERS are needed for the church yards – at your convenience.

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DATE	LEADERS / EVENT	Lector	Intercessor	Responder	Greeter	Zoom Service Coordinator
Nov 28 – First Sunday of Advent	Holy Eucharist Dr. Beth	Hope S.	Terri H.		Terri & Wayne Hall	Carol S.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Nov 28, 2021

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-9
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

Dec 5, 2021

Malachi 3:1-4
Canticle 4 or 16
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

We ask for Continued Prayers:

The **church**, its members, and its mission; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Jennifer, 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.

The **nation** and all in authority; The **welfare** of the world.

For all who suffer from hardships – physically, emotionally, or financially; Tammy Sellers; Marsha Hincks; Lila

And for those serving in the Military:

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

Those who have died:

All who have died from COVID 19; All who have died from violence

Blessings:

Being with family over the holidays

For those who celebrate Birthdays in Nov:

- Nov 2 – Geneva Hall
- Nov 6 – Michael Harris
- Nov 7 – Docey Lewis
- Nov 8 – Clint Cox
- Nov 15 – Peggy Meyer
- Nov 16 – Carol Stratton
- Nov 23 – Rita Davis
- Nov 28 – Richard Diemer
- Nov 29 – Suzanne Harris
- Nov 29 – Cindy Bernardin



For those who celebrate Anniversaries in Nov:

- Nov 15 – Charles & Sally Huck
- Nov 28 – Gary & Mary Ellen Gerard

And for Safety in Travel for:

All truck drivers and delivery persons; The Mumford, Reynolds, and Shoaff families