

# The Witness

Volume 27, Issue 9

Welcoming Worshipping Working

September 2023

## Special points of interest:

### Sunday

8:00 AM Service  
10:00 AM Service with coffee hour following the service

### Wednesday

12:15 PM Service



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## Some Reflections from your Visiting Clergy as I Take my Leave By The Rev. Bruce R. Bramlett

Wow, the summer has whizzed by. I am nearing my time to say goodbye to you all here at St. Stephens. Before saying anything else, let me simply express my deepest and most sincere thanks and gratitude to all of you who have made my time here so rich and blessed. Being invited into a parish for an extended visit is very much like taking up residence in another family's home. I have been welcomed into times of intimacy, sadness, and joy. I have come to know and enjoy you all as well as coming to respect and appreciate your many gifts and talents that make up this community of St. Stephen's. I have felt more than welcomed, supported, and appreciated at so many levels. You have graciously allowed me into your hearts and lives and given me a rich time to share whatever gifts and talents for ministry I hold. Best of all, you've been good sports for my peculiar sense of humor and my capacity to occasionally stir up (what I hope has been) some innocent but productive mischief among you in conversations and sermons. In all that, you've been very good sports. All I can say is that I leave your community so much richer and full of your generous spirit than I thought possible. I have served a number of parish communities over my 47 years in the vineyard of the Lord, and you will remain in my heart in more ways than I can imagine. I will continue to follow you all and keep you in my thoughts and prayers.

However, before I leave you, I have assumed the presumption of offering some reflections to the Vestry about some of the things I have experienced and observed since I arrived. Being an outsider gives anyone a privileged position to see what might not be able to be seen otherwise. I ask you to indulge me to share a few of these with you in the hope that they might assist you to do your own reflections on your congregation's life and ministry together. Here goes.

First, I quickly became acutely aware that St. Stephens has just survived the COVID pandemic which I suspect was an enormously traumatic time for everyone. We have all collectively been the victims of a worldwide disaster that has profoundly changed the face of our entire society. I suspect that collectively, St. Stephens has not addressed or even made yourselves sufficiently conscious of the many effects of that pandemic on the life and ministry of your congregation. (You are not alone in this--- every parish is having exactly the same experience nationwide) You have been through a terrible and transformative time of great stress, literally entering stormy and frighteningly unknown waters and experiences together. Much was either lost or



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changed dramatically during this period. While you may have returned to “normal” in some outward ways, the scars and the trauma of that period remain and continue to exercise a powerful weight on you. People have left, perhaps, never to return. That is especially true of those precious younger families you counted on to maintain a dynamic into a positive future. That must be a terrible disappointment and a cause for a level of significant congregational depression and grief. I wonder if you have taken the time to debrief that period adequately? I believe all this has to be worked through, while also remembering what you did well to even survive. You need to share what has ensued in the internal workings and accepted patterns of your community life that have been totally disrupted. Those disrupted patterns may not be replaceable, at least in the same ways that seemed obvious and comfortable before. You need to recognize those communal patterns that may not be working as they once did and adjust your expectations to move forward into the future with some healing.

A second thing I immediately noticed is that this parish has been gifted with a cadre of highly educated and socially/politically aware members. This is understandable since you are a university community. Nevertheless, it struck me that you seem hungry and thirsty to develop a more stimulating and challenging environment in which to thrive spiritually. In this regard, such an environment would also be very attractive to younger folks from the university. There are those who are searching for a spiritual community of intellectual stimulation, questioning spiritual engagement, integrity, transparency, and self-reflection which is largely absent in our contemporary society. In a university town, this should be a great strength and resource for you to develop. In our culture, I believe many younger people are longing and searching for a safe, supportive faith community (despite claims to the contrary) where they can be who they really are, engage in honest conversations, experiment with challenging issues and questions, and express their deepest spiritual selves. They must also see a faith community that is engaged with the great issues of justice and mercy confronting our world. One of the great strengths of the Episcopal ethos is that we have always heartily encouraged the primary value that each of us must work out our own salvation in fear and trembling. The role of the Church is to support and nourish that spiritual growth. Our society has made the mistake of perpetuating the false notion that we all must struggle with that task of spiritual maturation alone. The Church must overcome our horrible public image as close-minded, bigoted cabals of world and life denying ideologues. We must become more spiritually open communities that support and nurture mature, intellectually honest, spiritual growth and development. At the heart of the churches’ proclamation is the ultimate mystery of the Divine presence that we proclaim is manifest in Jesus of Nazareth. What does that mean for all of us at this point in history? Our past responses may not be particularly useful, coherent, or challenging in the world in which we live. I strongly urge that St. Stephens need to consider upping its game in terms of offering ongoing, quality adult education, group study, spiritual exploration, and disciplines, as well as engagements in projects of social justice and involvement. I invite you to do some “blue sky” dreaming about what’s possible as you look toward your future.

Finally, on a much more mundane level, it didn’t take long to realize that St. Stephens is almost two very different congregations. One worships at 8:00am and the other at 10:00am and it seems rare that these two ever really meet much less engage together socially. The 8:00am worship folks don’t know the 10:00 folks very well, even the “old-timers.” I suggest that this is not a good thing for your life as a congregation. While there are many ways to address this issue, I would suggest that you schedule a monthly joint service at, say, 9:00 or 9:30 with special music and perhaps a theme of some sort to make it a special celebration. You could then follow that celebration with an all-parish potluck brunch or breakfast just for fellowship and fun together. The more festive and fun, the better. You might, have a program of some sort that would be broadly attractive. Please, do anything to remedy this needless fragmentation of your congregation. You are a fun-loving bunch. Enjoy each other.

So much for my impertinent but respectful observations. They come out of the love and respect I have grown to have for this community. May the Holy One bless you all with every good gift as you seek to live and minister faithfully in our world.



# HELP WANTED

## Counters

Count the collection after the 10:00am Sunday service, once or twice a month. Requires attention to detail, basic math skills, ability to use a calculator and to write clearly on forms. Takes about two hours. Counters work in pairs, so you'll always have someone to help. To volunteer or for more information, contact kapennington@netscape.net

## Sunday School Teachers

Along with another teacher, work with infants through elementary school in the Children's Chapel during the first part of the 10am service on Sundays. Children rejoin their families in church at the exchange of the peace. Teach a few times a year or a regular monthly schedule. Must be 18 years of age or older and complete an online Child Safety Course. To volunteer or for more information, contact kapennington@netscape.net

## Coffee Hour Hosts

Help prepare, serve and/or cleanup Coffee Hour that follows the 10am service. Bring something special or serve cookies from the pantry. Host regularly or a few times a year. Don't worry about knowing how to make coffee, or where things are in the kitchen. We'll help you with that. To volunteer or for more information, contact lizwfrost@msn.com or kapennington@netscape.net

## Selected Bible Readings for September

**3-Sep-23**

**Creation Sunday**

<b>1st Reading</b>	Genesis 2:4b-25
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalms 33:1-9
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Revelation 21:1-7
<b>Gospel</b>	John 1:1-5

**10-Sep-23**

**St. Stephens Day**

<b>1st Reading</b>	Jeremiah 26:1-9,12-15
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalms 31:1-5
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Acts 6:8-7:2a,51c-60
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 23:34-39

**17-Sep-23**

**16Pent A -Proper 17-1**

<b>1st Reading</b>	Exodus 3.1-15
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalms 105.1-6,23-26,45c
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Romans 12.9-21
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 16.21-28

**24-Sep-23**

**17Pent A**

<b>1st Reading</b>	Jonah 3.10-4.11
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalms 145.1-8
<b>2nd Reading</b>	Philippians 1.21-30
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 20.1-16

### The Flower for September is the Morning Glory



They resemble the short time we have on earth. It can also be a symbol of strength, giving a person the power to realize their hopes and dreams. They are resilient. They do indeed die every evening but rise again in the morning. Signifying not just death but the beauty of life.

## Hands on Stewardship

**Thank you to** Bill Crewe, Lynn Hollister, Kay Lewis, Kathleen Pennington, Carolyn Platt and Elizabeth Potter for counting the collection and preparing the deposits during August.

**Thank you to** Liz Frost, Lee & Lynn Hollister, Craig & Cheryl McCollum, and Steph Sherman & Karen Siegfriedt for hosting Coffee Hour in August

**Thank you to** Gail Taylor, Nancy Deovlet, Elizabeth Potter, and Cheryl McCollum who folded, taped and labeled The Witness.

**Thank you to** everyone who prayed for the success of "Superheroes in SLO" Vacation Bible Camp and supported the kids by attending their play "Finding Your Smile" at the conclusion of the program.

**Thank you to** Bob & Mary McCorkle, Steph Sherman & Karen Siegfriedt, and Dorothy Truesdale for donating money to support Vacation Bible Camp.

**Thank you to** Alecia Bisselle, Georgia Maggelet, Sarah Maggelet, Kathleen Pennington, Elizabeth Potter, Francis Robertson, Christa Stephoni and Gail Taylor for volunteering their Super Powers at Vacation Bible Camp.

**Thank you to** Elizabeth Potter for helping with the celebration cards

**Thank you to** Clark Lewis for picking up the no cook bags to distribute to those in need.

**Thank you to** the A/V Team for their diligence in streaming the services.

**Thank you** for reading The Witness and watching the services at home.



## Blessing of the Animals

October 1, 2023 at 3pm  
at Emerson Park

You and your beloved pets will receive a blessing at this annual service remembering St. Francis of Assisi.

If your pet doesn't like to travel, bring a photo! Pets should be on a leash or in a carrier. Please bring a folding chair or picnic blanket for your comfort.

The event is in Emerson Park, across the street from St. Stephen's, along Nipomo Street between Pismo and Pacific Streets in SLO. It is easily accessible by walking, biking or SLO Transit Bus #2. If you must drive, please carpool. Parking is available at 650 Pismo, a half-block from the park.

Please join us after this brief service for light refreshments and some pet petting!



### General Information

**The Witness** is a monthly newsletter published by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, San Luis Obispo, CA to provide information about the parish to the congregation. Subscriptions are free to anyone. Send request along with your name and mailing address to the church office. Donations to help offset distribution costs are appreciated.

**Make checks payable to** St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

**The Church's e-mail address is:** [office@ststephensslo.org](mailto:office@ststephensslo.org)

**Contribution of articles is encouraged. Please e-mail submissions to** [witness@ststephensslo.org](mailto:witness@ststephensslo.org)  
The deadline for emailed submission of articles is the third Friday of the month. Email any questions to [witness@ststephensslo.org](mailto:witness@ststephensslo.org) © Copyright 2023 by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. All rights reserved.

**POSTMASTER:** Please send address corrections to: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 1344 Nipomo Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-3935

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St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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and be taken directly to  
our PayPal site or go to  
[paypal.me/ststephensslo](https://paypal.me/ststephensslo)



Scan. Pay. Go.



## Worshiping All Over California!

Since the middle of July, I've been traveling around California, which gave me the opportunity to experience the Anglican/Episcopal value of "Common prayer; local expression" among our neighbors.

July 30: St. Augustine's, Oakland. This historic Black Church is ¾-mile from my sister's house. It's a red carpenter gothic building slightly smaller than ours. The congregation is indeed predominantly Black, and the priest is European-American. The worship was very similar to ours. The visiting musician mixed contemporary and traditional music, seemingly to fit her musical abilities. It worked. The sermon was a bit low key, but the central message was important. The Priest spoke of his journey from conservative evangelical that was for intents and purposes abusive to others toward The Episcopal Church and a faith and faith expression that are more Jesus-like and inclusive. The congregation was very welcoming ... and visitors get a free St. Augustine's mug!!

August 6: St. Paul's, Healdsburg is another carpenter gothic building, about the size of St. Stephen's without the transept, but with much-coveted side aisles. It's very beautifully appointed. With 55-60 people, the place was packed! There were all ages, but not diverse in other ways, and it was very relaxed. The Deacon preached on her memories of The Bomb – It was Transfiguration Sunday and Hiroshima Day. Oddly, 300mi from home, I was recognized!

The LEM is a Facebook friend even though we don't know one another! We have mutual friends, all clergy. Oh, and the sanctuary is air-conditioned!

August 13: St Francis', Turlock. Another carpenter gothic building, a little smaller than St. Stephen's. The after-effects of schism in the Diocese of San Joaquin in 2007/8 are very apparent at my first visit to a parish in this Diocese. Though there were only a few – 21 including me – I could tell this was a very faithful congregation. I was greeted warmly at the end of the service. The Peace was shared with everyone by everyone. The service music was none I've ever heard before and a bit difficult to follow, even as one who reads music. Overall, it was a nice, easy, Sunday morning worship!

August 20: All Saints' by-the-Sea, Montecito. A modernized carpenter gothic building, a lot wider than ours, with 4 sets of pews, the middle set being double-wide, and side aisles. This was the only place I felt uncomfortable and out of place. It wasn't unwelcoming; it just wasn't a community feeling that put me at ease. That doesn't happen to me very often! Like Los Olivos, it was very country club! But it was far more welcoming as a congregation. They are in a search for a Rector – I won't be applying! The liturgy was almost identical to ours. The preacher told us the bold truth that the Canaanite Woman showed Jesus – and shows us – that His and our ministries go far beyond what we believe they can or should. She showed Jesus and us that Jesus and our material and human resources are nowhere near as limited as we say they are. She was the same priest who was presiding and preaching in Santa Maria when I attended on May 21! That was my first Sunday away from St. Stephen's!

Next Sunday I plan to worship at the church where I was baptized: St. Mary's, Lompoc, which will be for the October issue. God bless!



-Fr. Ian

# Give for Good: Diversity Coalition Annual Fundraiser



DIVERSITY COALITION  
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

**Diversity Coalition Annual Fundraiser:**

*Give for Good*

Thursday, September 21st  
5PM to 8pm  
Flying Caballos Ranch  
San Luis Obispo

**TICKETS AT  
DIVERSITYSLO.ORG**

Email [ed@diversityslo.org](mailto:ed@diversityslo.org) for questions,  
media or sponsorship enquiries.



St. Stephen's has been a sponsor of the good work of DiversitySLO. Please consider attending this event as a commitment to your support and the support of St Stephen's for San Luis Obispo to be a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community!

Tickets: <https://betterunite.com/diversitycoalition-giveforgood2023>

LUMINA ALLIANCE

**CELEBRATE  
COMMUNITY**

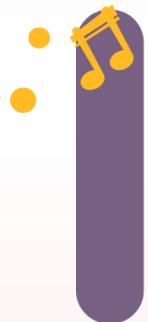


**FESTIVAL & WALK FOR SURVIVORS**

PRESENTED BY BHE RENEWABLES



**OCT 28**  
**MISSION PLAZA**  
San Luis Obispo  
11 am- 3 pm



**HUNGER AWARENESS DAY**

**2023 HUNGER FIGHTER**

**This year's results are nothing short of Heroic!**

<b>13</b> Donation Sites	<b>10</b> Agency Partners	<b>7</b> Fundraising Teams
<b>18</b> Sponsors	<b>290</b> Volunteers	<b>400+</b> Donors

**\$120,000+**  
Net Funds to Feed Neighbors in Need

We are so grateful for your invaluable support of our largest community event to bolster the SLO Food Bank's hunger relief efforts.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
Welcoming Worshiping Working

SLO FOOD BANK  
County Partnership for Hunger Relief

## SLO Food Bank Hunger Awareness Day

St. Stephen's remains a significant ally in our mission and your continued sponsorship of Hunger Awareness Day speaks volumes to your dedication and commitment to alleviating hunger in our communities. As an integral partner, we are thrilled to share the below results (also attached) from our most significant community event with you:

We met and exceeded our fundraising goal. And our CalFresh efforts far exceeded our expectations by processing 40 applications on that Friday (almost double the previous year) and assisting 100 individuals, in total, with questions about the program. **Your support made this possible. Thank you for your trust and partnership in feeding SLO County.**

*With a grateful heart,  
Branna*

## Update from 2023 Walk for Healing

*Thank you note from Susan Olson, Director of Development at Hospice SLO*

Thank you St. Stephen's for your support of the 2023 Walk for Healing! With your help we surpassed our \$50,000 fundraising goal with a total of **\$51,068** after expenses! We are truly grateful for your support that helps us continue to provide services to the community at no charge.

Thank you for your kindness!

**WALK FOR HEALING**  
6-WEEK VIRTUAL CHALLENGE  
MAY 1 - JUNE 11, 2023

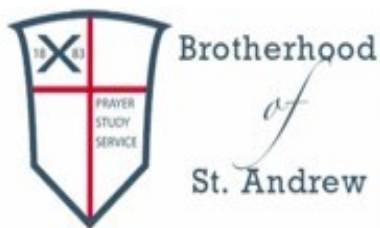
Thank you to  
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
for your  
**Silver Sponsorship**  
of the  
Walk For Healing 2023

*"Walk to Remember. Walk to Support."*

*Shannon*  
**Shannon McQuat**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**HOSPICE SLO COUNTY**  
A NON-MEDICAL VOLUNTEER HOSPICE AND COMMUNITY GRIEF CENTER

*Susan*  
**Susan Olson**  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT



## Online Virtual Silent Auction August 19—September 5

Greetings!

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the men's ministry of the Episcopal and Anglican communion since 1883, is hosting a major event August 19-September 5. We will hold our first ever virtual online silent auction "Sharing

Our Treasures" to help us raise funds to expand and enhance our ministry to our local chapters through our tenets of Prayer, Study and Service. Our ministries of focus are:

- \* Discipleship and Mentoring
- \* Veterans
- \* Youth and Scouting
- \* Recovery from Addiction
- \* Social Justice and Human Trafficking
- \* Racial Reconciliation
- \* Restorative Justice and Prison Ministry

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, the men's ministry of the Episcopal and Anglican Community, this year celebrates its 140<sup>th</sup> year since it's founding. The ministry will be hosting an online silent auction "Sharing Our Treasures" beginning August 19. Items being auctioned range from trips, to collector artwork, jewelry, sports memorabilia, gift cards, and much more!

All proceeds from this nationwide auction go to support their 7 focus ministries.

Log on to the website listed above and place your bid to support this ministry Prayer, Study and Service in the Episcopal and Anglican Community.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [conrad.jones@brothersandrew.net](mailto:conrad.jones@brothersandrew.net)  
Thank you and God Bless!

Link to Auction: <https://brotherstandrew.betterworld.org/auctions/sharing-our-treasures-3>



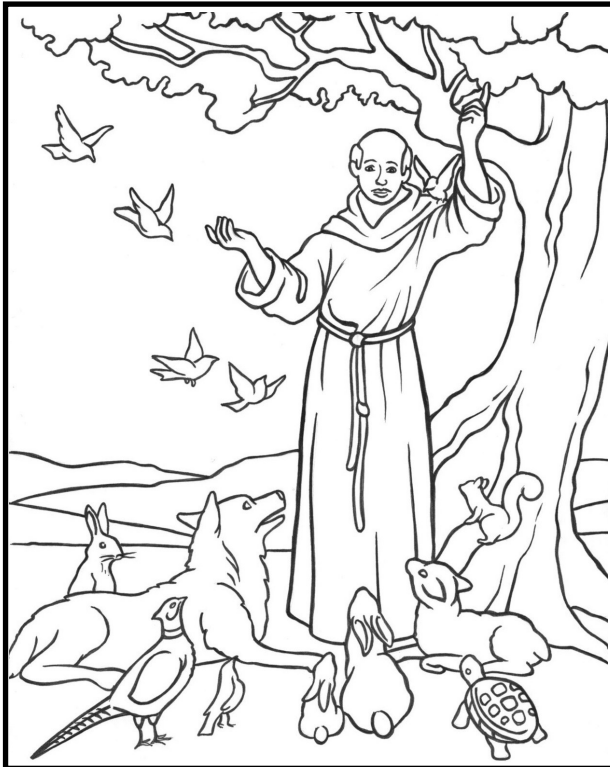
### Example of items up for auction



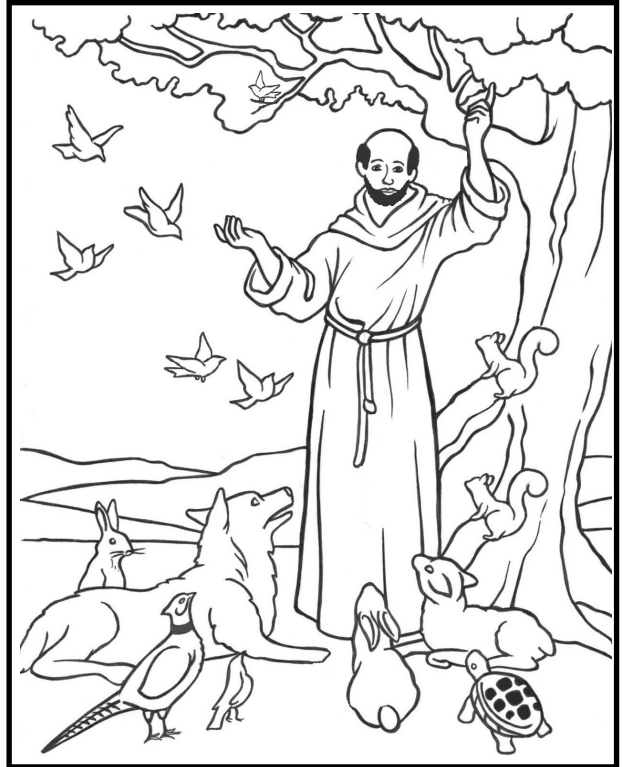


# Spot the 10 Differences in the Pictures of St. Francis

Francis loved all of God's creation, and God gave him a special relationship with animals. Birds would gather around him as he walked, and he would sing praise to God with them. When a village was being tormented by a wolf that ate their chickens and frightened children, Francis went out to talk to the wolf. He explained to the wolf how much trouble he was causing and the wolf told Francis he didn't mean to cause trouble, he was just hungry. So, Francis asked the villagers to leave food for the wolf at the edge of the village and the wolf and the villagers lived in peace. We remember Francis as the "patron saint of animals" because God gave him a special way of understanding that part of His creation.



Answer: In the picture on the right there's a small bird in the tree, Francis has dark hair and a beard, there's no bird on his shoulder, his bright belt string is shorter, there's a second squirrel on the tree, the turtle's shell has black squares, one rabbit is missing, the ring on the pheasant's neck is black and there's an extra bird in the sky.



## September Celebrations

### Birthdays

15-Sep Sophia Agbo  
20-Sep Juliette Meinhold

### Anniversaries

21-Sep Mike & Shannon Larrabee

Are we missing your special celebration? Please let us know so that we can celebrate with you.

Call, email, snail mail the information to Stephanie in the office at 805-543-7212 or [office@ststephensslo.org](mailto:office@ststephensslo.org)



## Relevance

By Fr. Ian M. Delinger, Rector

I am writing this article on Miramar Beach having just left the 10am Service at All Saints-by-the-Sea in Montecito watching surfers take advantage of the larger-than-normal waves due to Hurricane Hilary. I have been on the visitor/newcomer side of Sunday mornings. My 14 Sundays (one more to go!) of worshiping in a different Anglican or Episcopal Church has reinforced many of the aspects of Sunday morning that clergy and lay leaders discuss regularly.

Today I felt “welcome/d” but uncomfortable. I was clearly out of place and was reminded of the *Sesame Street* song “One of these things is not like the other”. It was a reminder that every and each parish has its own culture and identity...and that’s OK. As ‘big tent’ a Church The Episcopal Church is, our aim is not to be all things to all people. St Stephen’s will not be the right place of worship for every person.

No parish is perfect; every parish is made up of human beings. We express our liturgy – the work of the people – in a way that works for us. And that’s right and proper. To design our liturgy for those who are not there will render it irrelevant to those who are. Though, I would assert that Sunday worship should be expressed in a way such that every person should feel “welcome/d”.

The other aspect of every and each parish that is important is that it should be relevant.

I was ordained into a Church that was considered irrelevant to the average British and American resident and had been for at least 20 years prior. That may sound very negative and defeatist, but the topic of ‘relevancy’ is discussed among Church leaders regularly...sometimes to no relevant conclusion. But we forget that the Church *IS* relevant, and it is our mission (responsibility?) To make it so.

My reviews of Sunday morning worship have solely focused on Sunday morning worship. I am aware that any person may and does similarly review our Sunday worship, my sermons and manner of presiding, our music, our welcome, etc. I know because I get feedback.

The Church on Sunday mornings is relevant to us, our faith and our practice of faith. How we worship always needs to be relevant to us or there is no point in us being there. God through Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit is relevant to our lives, and we find St Stephen’s the right place for us to nurture that. People become a part of our worshipping family for that reason.

For those of other faiths or of no faith (*and that is far more people than who fill our pews*), the Church is only relevant as much as it is visibly engaged in the community. The relevancy comes through what we *DO* with what has been nurtured on Sunday morning. Taking our love of Jesus outside the walls of the Church makes the Church relevant. What could be in the form of proselytizing, but it could also be in the form of engaging with the priorities of the community that overlap with the priorities of the Gospel: Caring for the poor, the widow, the orphan and the resident alien (*ref: Exodus 22:20-26 / Deuteronomy 10:17-18*).

Community engagement may have been a topic of reflection and conversation among the parish while I’ve been on sabbatical. It certainly has been a topic of reflection for me. Or, perhaps you took my absence as a welcome relief from regular conversation about how we need to do more in the community! As I mentioned



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above, my reviews of the parishes I have attended have focused on Sunday morning worship. Next month, I will share with you what those parishes are doing within their communities (I'll try to be concise!). Sunday morning worship is only relevant to the people of faith who engage with it. But what those people do with their faith becomes relevant to a much wider, larger, more diverse group of people, and faith without works is dead (*James 2:14-26*).

I was ordained into a Church 19 years ago that was already considered irrelevant to the bulk of the population. Let's make what we do on Sunday mornings change that conversation.

## Altar Guild

You can add to the beauty of St. Stephen's services while honoring an important person or event in your life by donating toward the altar flowers or candles.

Just choose a specific date, enter your name on the charts at the church front door, take a form and fill out the date, your name, and the dedication you would like to see in your chosen Sunday Bulletin.

Put form and payment in envelope and leave at ushers station or in offering plate. Checks are to be made out to St. Stephen's, with "altar flowers" (or candles) written on the memo line.

Suggested donations are \$50 for flowers and \$20 for candles, but please feel free to give what is a comfortable amount for you.



*With appreciation from all your fellow congregants,  
Jennifer Sayre  
Altar Guild Director*



At Vacation Bible Camp this summer children learned about a few Bible Superheroes and discovered some of their own God-given Super Powers. Our Sunday School program this year will follow up on that with study of more of the Bible Superheroes and the strengths God gave them, and gives us. Some Bible Superheroes come to mind easily, like Moses or Daniel. Others, like Miriam, Esther or the boy who shared his lunch are less well known. We'll also learn about some of the Superheroes that are often called "Saints" and how we're called to be Saints of God, too.

Sunday School, for infants through elementary school, will resume September 10th at the 10am service. Children will gather at the back of the church as the service begins to join in the procession and then continue to the Children's Chapel for prayer, song, Bible stories, a craft, worksheet or game and snack before coming back into church to rejoin their families after the sermon. Through the year there will be some Sundays when class is not held.



If you have questions about or suggestions for Sunday School or would like to be on the email list for Sunday School updates, contact Kathleen at [kapennington@netscape.net](mailto:kapennington@netscape.net)



# St. Stephen's

Episcopal Church

Welcoming Worshiping Working

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San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-3935

805-543-7212  
office@ststephensslo.org  
www.ststephensslo.org  
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs. 9am-1pm

Do we stand at attention like the morning glory, proud in Christ, proud of our life in him? Do we radiate this beauty to others so they are drawn to us? Drawn to Christ in us?

*I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well*  
(Psalm 139:14).

-from [www.Crosswalk.com](http://www.Crosswalk.com)



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## St. Stephen's Day Celebrations!

Come join the celebration!

We celebrate who we are as a Christian community and as a part of the wider San Luis Obispo Community every year!

**Saturday, September 9 at 7pm – CELEBRATING with music!** A recital of some of the wonderful music sung by our choral scholars over the summer. In the sanctuary. Enter through the main doors of the church at the corner of Pismo & Nipomo Streets.

**Sunday, September 10 at 8am and 10am – CELEBRATING our faith!** The Bishop of El Camino Real will lead our worship and formally welcome 8 people into the Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement (the Church) through Baptism, Confirmation and Reception. Our worship is open to all: Whoever you are, and wherever you are on your spiritual journey, St. Stephen's welcomes you! Enter through the main doors of the church at the corner of Pismo & Nipomo Streets.

**Sunday, September 10 at about 11:30am – CELEBRATING with food, music and fun!** The Dave Becker Quartet will perform as we dine on end-of-summer BBQ fare. In the parking lot at 650 Pismo Street.

Whoever you are, and wherever you are, St. Stephen's wants to CELEBRATE with you!  
For more information: [office@ststephensslo.org](mailto:office@ststephensslo.org)

