

**Dates to Remember :**

February 3	9:00 ECW Business meeting & Clean up day; 10:00 Inreach meeting
February 5	5:30 New Member Class
February 7-9	Annual Council Meeting in Tupelo, MS
February 11	9:00 Bingo at Indywood
February 12	5:30 New Member Class
February 17	3:30 Outreach meeting; 5:00 Vestry meeting
February 19	5:30 New Member Class
February 25	5:00 - 7:00 St. Stephen's Men Annual Pancake Supper
February 26	Ash Wednesday Services- Noon at St. Stephen's; 6:00 at FUMC
March 1	11am Bishop Seage visits St. Stephen's and leads worship at 11am. Lunch follows.
March 4	Noon Lenten Lunch at FUMC
March 11	Noon Lenten Lunch at St. Stephen's
March 18	Noon Lenten Lunch at FUMC
March 25	Noon Lenten Lunch at St. Stephen's
April 1	Noon Lenten Lunch at FUMC

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
**P.O. Box 1004**  
**Indianola, MS 38751**

*St. Stephen's Mission is to be a growing Christian family, led by the Holy Spirit, and united as we love God and love our neighbors.*  
*Sunday School-9:30, Coffee Hour-10:30, Worship-11:00*



**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**

205 East Gresham Street  
P.O. Box 1004  
Indianola, MS 38751  
(662) 887-4365  
office@ststephensindianola.org  
The Rt. Rev. Brian Seage, Bishop of Mississippi  
The Rev. Julianna C. Gray, Rector  
Mrs. Jennifer P. Zeponi, Parish Administrator  
February 2020

**Vestry**

David Allen, Senior Warden  
Raymond Woo, Junior Warden  
Debbie Allen  
Ernie Baker  
Stan Berry  
Jimmy Clayton  
Lynn Eastland  
Walton Gresham

**Seeking the Light of Christ**

Our Epiphany season began with the first bonfire St. Stephen's has had in decades. What fun it was to gather in the country over a pile of dried Christmas trees set ablaze!



Once the brightness of the feast of Epiphany fades however, the season of seeking the light of Christ is just beginning for us. February is here, and the season of Epiphany continues.

With the winter holidays over, we have a chance to settle into our routines. Routines are helpful to us. They help us to recalibrate. We are more able to achieve the balance we know we need for healthy minds, and bodies, and spirits when our days and weeks are paced by a steady rhythm.

During Epiphany, the church in her wisdom encourages us to look at the many places the light of Christ is made manifest. This is the time when we seek the light of Christ wherever it may be found.

At St. Stephen's, this season offers us a time for growth. This month, we are beginning several opportunities for group study. Among these is our Sunday morning formation, which is open to all. The book we now are reading together focuses on faith practices that sustain us for the journey. I can already tell will be a timely topic for us!

Below is the beginning of my favorite Epiphany prayer. As you set your intentions for this month ahead, I offer it to you as one of the many prayers you may pray on behalf of yourself and the larger church:

*Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world:  
Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments,  
may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory.*

In your coming and your going, may God bless you and those you love with the brightness of Christ's glory! And, like the wise who go before us, may you keep seeking the light of Christ.

Giulianna+

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION SUNDAY MORNINGS**

What practices are essential for sustaining Christian communities? Come find out what the research shows every Sunday morning in February at 9:30 am.

**LENTEN PARTNERSHIP PLANNED**

We will partner with First United Methodist Church this year for learning and worship.

**Episcopal Church Women News**

- The ECW will have a Business meeting/Clean Up day on Monday, February 3rd at 9:00 am.
- Have rummage? ECW will host a sale in late spring of 2020. Any questions, contact

**St. Stephen's Men Annual Pancake Supper**

Tuesday, February 25th  
5:00 - 7:00 pm  
Tickets are \$6  
Tickets may be purchased from men of the church or at the door the night of supper. Co-Chairs are Joe Lee and Woods Eastland. Speak with them if you need more information.



**Inreach News**

The next Inreach meeting will be held on Monday, February 3 at 10:00 am. If you have an update, please give to an Inreach committee member or the church office prior to meeting.

**OUTREACH NEWS**

MEETING UPDATES: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 17 at 3:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

The Season of Lent

**Ash Wednesday Worship - February 26th**

**12pm, St. Stephen's**  
BCP, Rite II with imposition of ashes

Rev. Gray presides,  
Rev. Skaggs preaches

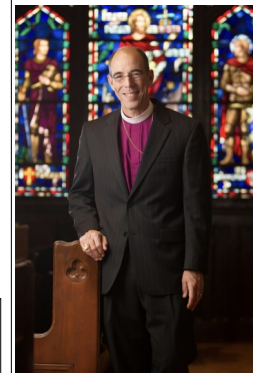
**6pm, FUMC**

United Methodist Service with Ashes

Rev. Skaggs presides, Rev. Gray preaches



**First Sunday of Lent, March 1st 11am**



The Rt. Rev. Brian Seage, Bishop of the Diocese of Mississippi will make his bi-annual visitation to St. Stephen's. Bishop Seage will preside, preach, and offer the sacramental rite of confirmation. Meal will follow

**LENTEN LUNCH SERIES EVERY WEDNESDAY AT NOON**

**March 4th -Lenten Lunch at FUMC**

Guest Speaker- The Rev. Daniel Herring, Sr. Pastor of Grenada FUMC.

**March 11th - Lenten Lunch at St. Stephen's**

Guest Speaker-The Rev. Dr. Sarah Moses, Professor of Ethics at University of MS

**March 18th -Lenten Lunch at FUMC**

Guest Speaker-Ms. Lauren Sledge, Associate Director of Student Ministry at Christ United Methodist Church in Jackson, Ms.

**March 25th - Lenten Lunch at St. Stephen's**

Guest Speaker-The Rev. Nettie Winters, Director of Mission Mississippi, Jackson, Ms.

**April 1st - Lenten Lunch at FUMC**

Guest Speaker-The Rev. Julianna Gray

**April 8th - Lenten Lunch at St. Stephen's**

Guest Speaker-The Rev. Trey Skaggs

**Highlights from January**



**2020 Vestry**

Pictured are from left to right seated first row: Senior Warden, David Allen, Rev. Julianna Gray, Junior Warden, Raymond Woo.

Standing left to right: Ernie Baker, Lynn Eastland, Walton Gresham, Debbie Allen, Stan Berry.

Not pictured: Jimmy Clayton



Welcome to the Household of God!  
We celebrated the Baptisms of Woods and Banks Abraham on January 12th. Pictured here with their parents Victoria and Frazier Abraham



**Epiphany Bonfire**

From our oldest to our youngest members, we all enjoyed the Epiphany bonfire! We give thanks for the warm hospitality of Cay and Lars Ely.

