

March 4	Noon Lenten Lunch at FUMC
March 11	Noon Lenten Lunch at St. Stephen's (hosts: Jack Allen, Laurie Noble, Rachel Pitts, Peggy Pickett)
March 15	Licensed Lay Worship Leader Training 12pm
March 18	Noon Lenten Lunch at FUMC
March 25	Noon Lenten Lunch at St. Stephen's (hosts: Laura Gresham, Louise Gresham, Susan Lee, Elizabeth Veazey)
March 29	Vestry Retreat 2-5pm, Parish Hall
April 1	Noon Lenten Lunch at FUMC
<i>HOLY WEEK: April 5th- April 12th : Daily Morning Prayer 8:30am, and:</i>	
April 5	Palm Sunday. 9:30am- Sunday School All Ages Gathering before 11am Worship
April 8	Noon Lenten Lunch at St. Stephen's (hosts: Susan Allen, Lynn Baker, Beth Fisher, Mary Chandler Neal)
April 9	5:30 Maundy Thursday service
April 10	Noon Good Friday Service. 1:00 pm Stations of the Cross
April 12	Easter Sunday, Egg Hunt and Festivities begin at 10am, Worship at 11am
April 30- May 3rd	Cursillo #138 at Gray Center
May 17	Spring Picnic Sunday (Canon Paul Stephen's visits parish, Julianna's Final Sunday)

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. Zepponi, Parish Administrator
 March 2020

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



The Bishop visited on Sunday. It was perfect timing. Bishop Seage confirmed/received/reaffirmed a wonderful group of individuals. He also provided helpful encouragement and information to follow the announcement made last week.

My husband, Peter, has been called to serve as Chaplain for students, faculty, and staff at Sewanee: the University of the South. As you can imagine, a lot of mutual discernment took place before he accepted the position. I have come to believe that Peter is being faithful to the movement of the Holy Spirit as he prepares himself for a chapter of ministry that will take him into a new role that is based in the context of the academy. He will preach regularly at the beautiful campus worship space, and assist the institution in a variety of ways as Sewanee lives into her identity in this new era as a southern, Episcopal institution of higher learning.

So many of you have asked what I will do. Thank you for asking! I have a lot of energy and joy for priestly ministry. My initial plan is to continue using my energy and joy for ministry right here where I have been planted these last 6 years until my final Sunday with you on May 17th. When the time is right (and after we get Joseph and Francesca settled in our new community at Sewanee), I will work with the Canon to the Ordinary and others in the Diocese of Tennessee to discern where it is that I may be called to use my gifts to serve.

These years at St. Stephen's have been a blessing to me. I am glad we'll have some more time together. We will walk through another Lent and Holy Week together, celebrate the joy of the resurrection of another Easter, and continue until the end of the program year.

I hope you'll each be present as you can be through the Spring. Faith communities that stay close in times of transition are able to grow in faith, hope, and love, even in times of change.

While I will miss you deeply, I will be leaving you in good hands. You have a wonderful senior warden in David Allen. You have a strong vestry with many years of dedicated service to St. Stephen's. You have a talented parish administrator in Jennifer Zepponi, and you could not act for a more dependable housekeeper in Leunice Jernigan. Additionally, the Diocesan support staff has already made themselves very available to us to prepare St. Stephen's for the next steps, and a number of good conversations have already taken place.

Change can be hard. But when we keep our eyes and our hearts open, and our feet walking that path of following Jesus, change is just one of curve in the road that will be bring us closer to where we need to be.

I love you, St. Stephen's. Keep the faith. Let's keep walking!
 - Julianna+

CHRISTIAN FORMATION SUNDAY MORNINGS

What practices are essential for sustaining Christian communities? Come find out what the research shows! We will miss a few weeks in early, but will resume the study on Sunday, March 15th at 9:30am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ALL AGES! April 5th!

On Palm Sunday at 9:45am, we will invite ALL AGES to join us in the parish hall for a fun, experiential start to Holy Week. We just practice Holy Week one time per year, and this time will get our hearts and minds ready for the holiest week of the year.

RUMMAGE SALE!

The Episcopal Church Women plan a rummage sale in late Spring of 2020. Donations are currently being accepted. All proceeds will be given to a good cause. Any questions, contact Laurie Noble or church office.

VESTRY MATTERS

During times of clergy leadership transitions, vestry leadership is of particular importance.



David Allen, Senior Warden, has hit the ground running already. Over the coming months, David will communicate closely with the Diocesan staff to arrange for clergy coverage after Julianna's departure on May 17th.

David, along with the whole vestry, will begin the groundwork toward an upcoming search for a new rector. You are invited to offer prayer for David, and for the entire vestry as they seek to discern the next right steps for St. Stephen's.

On March 29th, the vestry will gather from 2-5pm for a time of retreat. This gathering will be led by Mrs. Alice Perry. Alice, a Jackson native and parishioner at St. James Episcopal Church, is a trained search consultant who came highly recommended by the Diocese.



Welcome! What joy to welcome new members on Sunday, May 1st! Pictured from the left are Mary Lou Foster, Victoria Abraham, Nicole Bishop, Tyler Neal (holding Walker), and Mary Chandler Neal (who has another little one on the way). Also pictured are the Rev. Julianna Gray, and Rt. Rev. Brian Seage.

The Annual Council delegation for St. Stephen's is pictured. From the left are Evan Griffin, Pam and Raymond Woo, Stan Berry and Julianna Gray. Not pictured is Jack Allen who was busy assisting with youth program. The 2021 Council will be held in Jackson, at St. Andrew's School!



"This year's pancake supper was very successful. There were many comments about how good they tasted. Thanks to Co chairmen, Joe Lee and all of you for all of your efforts." Woods Eastland



Lenten Luncheon Series

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED



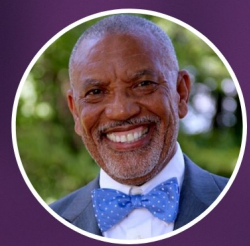
Rev. Daniel Herring
MARCH 4TH
at FUMC



Rev. Dr. Sarah Moses
MARCH 11
at St. Stephens



Ms. Lauren Sledge
MARCH 18
at FUMC



Rev. Neddie Winters
MARCH 25
at St. Stephens



Rev. Julianna Gray
APRIL 1
at FUMC



Rev. Trey Skaggs
APRIL 8
at St. Stephens

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT | 12:00 NOON