

## BAPTISMAL DATES

**Holy Baptism** will be celebrated on the following days and others as needed:

All Saints' Sunday-**November 4, 2018**

The First Sunday after Epiphany-**January 13, 2019**

Easter Vigil-**April 20, 2019**

Pentecost Sunday-**June 9, 2019**

A preparation program is required prior to Baptism.

To obtain added information, call the church office (410-721-2881) or e-mail Father Hailey (FatherHailey@gmail.com)



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Dates to be determined

## YOUTH GROUPS

Please consider involvement in any group event.  
Support of ministry to our young people is essential.  
We strongly encourage ideas and suggestions.

**Our youth in Middle School and High School, have the following two-fold mission:**

- *We seek to maintain our teenage body in the church through active Outreach participation.*
- *Through our Outreach efforts, it is our hope to make a difference in our community, set an example for younger children in St. Stephen's Parish, and through grace, continue to maintain and build a strong spiritual relationship with Christ.*

This mission is realized through activities that provide growth, learning, and service.

## CHURCH SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Meredith Devereaux.....443-694-4218.....coachdev1@icloud.com

# CHURCH SCHOOL STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK

## 2018 - 2019

St. Stephen's  
Episcopal Church-  
Severn Parish

~

## Crownsville, Maryland

## **ASP SERVICE TRIP**

St. Stephen's will be participating in Appalachia Service Project (ASP) again next summer and we hope you will join us!

ASP provides a service opportunity for a team of youth (14-18) and adults to make homes safer, drier and warmer for low income families in the Central Appalachia region. This is a chance to lift the spirits of these families who are caught in the cycle of poverty and show them that God's love knows no boundaries. Many who have participated in past years will attest that when you help change the lives of others, they end up changing you.

An organizational/informational meeting will be held on **September 30** at 11:15 to begin planning the 2019 trip. There will be several fundraisers planned over the next year to support the trip which have been generously supported by St. Stephen's congregation. If you are interested in joining the ASP team or just want to help support this trip, please contact Sheri Mulder or Jenny Levendusky.

## **SPIRIT SINGERS**

**The Spirit Singers**, sing in church approximately once a month and meet weekly for a 15-20 minute practice at 11:30 a.m. during the program year. Second through Eighth graders are welcome to come and make a joyful noise! The first rehearsal will take place on Sunday, **September 9**. Questions? Contact Donna Dixon Ervin, 410-672-2452.

## **CELEBRATION CHOIR**

**The Celebration Choir** is open to anyone of any age who wishes to be in a choir but cannot commit to weekly rehearsals. This choir rehearses and sings once per month, on the third Sunday of the month, at the 10:00 a.m. service, with rehearsal call time at 9:15 a.m. that morning. Singers are invited to join as family groups, even with very small children, or as couples or as singles. Come help us praise God in song! First rehearsal and performance this year are **September 16**. Contact Donna Dixon Ervin, 410-672-2452, with questions.

**FROM:  
THE CHURCH SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

When a child is baptized at St. Stephen's, we promise to support each child in "their life in Christ." This support is reflected in the Church School Program for our youth from Pre-School through High School.

Some of the teachers will be using the "*Spark*" curriculum by Augsburg Fortress, which allows the Staff to present a cohesive teaching program that is fresh, colorful, thoroughly scriptural, liturgical, and follows the Lectionary.

Each teacher will be able to supplement their curriculum with resources of their choosing that meets the needs and talents of the children in their classroom.

Meghan Luhman and Elisabeth Parish will head the Pre-School and Kindergarten class in the first classroom on the left downstairs in the Parish Hall (former nursery space).

Danielle Sykes will teach our First and Second graders in the second classroom on the left downstairs in the Parish Hall.

Erica Crouch will teach our Third, Fourth, and Fifth graders in the third classroom on the left downstairs in the Parish Hall.

Sharon Wanamaker will be meeting with our Middle School students upstairs in the Parish Hall.

Lorin Selby will be meeting with our High School students in Woodward Hall. He will be using internet resources, mainly the Loyola Sunday Connection Curriculum. This is based on the Sunday Lectionary readings, so the students are studying what their parents are hearing in church.

Please be sure to register your children!!

*Meredith Devereaux*

**FROM THE PASTOR**

At St. Stephen's, children and youth are an important part of God's family. Whenever a child is welcomed into the Body of Christ through Baptism, we make the promise to support each child in "*their life in Christ*" (BCP 303). It is our hope that each child and their family feel this support through the various programs offered throughout the year.

Children in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade - and anyone who wishes - are welcome to serve as acolytes. Training programs will occur as needed, led by our Master Acolyte, Ben Brown, and Fr. Hailey+.

Through our Sunday School Community, we provide an environment in which God's children can grow in faith through learning, serving, and loving each other and the world, as God loves us. Sunday School offers a place for children to experience a loving community, where they can get to know God by engaging in fellowship, church activities, and Bible study. Our curriculum is based on our beliefs as Episcopalians, using the *Spark* curriculum and additional resources.

We also work with our young people to prepare to receive the Sacraments of the Church: Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Our Baptismal policies are enclosed and may also be found on our website: <http://www.ststephens-severn.ang-md.org/sacraments.html>.

Holy Eucharist is open to **all** baptized Christians, including our children. Fr. Hailey+ would be glad to speak with all children wishing to take Communion for the very first time to help guide them through this special event

Confirmation is the rite in which individuals make a "*mature, public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of baptism and receive the laying on of hands by the Bishop.*" (BCP 412). Anyone 15 years or older is eligible for Confirmation. St. Stephen's is not scheduled to have a Bishop's visitation through June of 2019, however, the Bishop also offers Confirmation at the Cathedral of the Incarnation on April 28, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. If you are interested or have questions about Confirmation, please contact me!

Our goal is to provide a community for children, youth and their parents - a place where we can pray together, discuss family issues, share in meals and help our children grow as Christians in the Episcopal tradition, where they can be part of the whole Christian community of St. Stephen's!

Fr. Victor Hailey+  
*Priest-in-Charge*, St. Stephen's Church

# CALENDAR 2018-2019

\***Family Sunday** means that students are in attendance in Church for the entire 10:00 a.m. Service **and** for the presentation of class projects.

## September

- 16 (Sun.) Church School Classes begin (10:00 a.m.)
- 23 (Sun.) Church School Meeting (*after church; Trunk or Treat*)
- 29 (Sat.) Crab Feast (2:00-6:00 p.m.)
- 30 (Sun.) Potluck Sunday (VEGGIE TALES in Nursery, Brunch after 10:00 a.m. service)  
ASP Meeting after 10 am service

## October

- 7 (Sun.) \*FAMILY SUNDAY
- 13 (Sat.) Holiday Bazaar (10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)
- 19 (Fri.) Trunk or Treat (5:30-7:30 p.m.)
- 21 (Sun.) 100th Birthday Party for Janice Africa after 10:00 a.m. service
- 27 (Sat.) Diocesan Workshop (9:00 a.m.-5: p.m.)

## November

- 3 (Sat.) Fall Dinner (3:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.)
- 4 (Sun.) \*FAMILY SUNDAY/ All Saints Sunday / Baptism
- 11 (Sun.) Church School Meeting (*after church; Advent/Jesse Tree*)
- 17 (Sat.) ASP Pie Making Day
- 22 (Thurs.) Thanksgiving - Prayer Service at 10:00 a.m.
- 25 (Sun.) NO CHURCH SCHOOL, but VEGGIE TALES in Nursery

## December

- 2 (Sun.) \*FAMILY SUNDAY (*Jesse Tree Project presented in Church.*)
- 9 (Sun.) Messiah Sing Along (*3:30 p.m.*)
- 22 (Sat.) Pageant Rehearsal (12:00-2:00 p.m., Lunch provided)  
ASP Pie Making Day
- 24 (Mon.) Christmas Eve Pageant Service (5:00 p.m.)  
Festive Eucharist Service (9:00 p.m.)
- 25 (Tues.) Christmas Day Eucharist Service (10:00 a.m.)
- 30 (Sun.) Lessons and Carols at 9:00 a.m. (only service that day)  
NO CHURCH SCHOOL, but VEGGIE TALES in Nursery

## January

- 6 (Sun.) \*FAMILY SUNDAY
- 13 (Sun.) The Baptism of Our Lord (possible Baptisms)

## February

- 3 (Sun.) \*FAMILY SUNDAY; Annual Meeting, one service at 9:00 a.m., VEGGIE TALES in Nursery

## March

- 3 (Sun.) \*FAMILY SUNDAY
- 5 (Tues.) Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (6:00 p.m.)
- 6 (Wed.) Ash Wednesday (Services at noon and 7:30 p.m.)
- 24 (Sun.) Church School Meeting (*after church; Easter Egg Hunt*)
- 31 (Fri.) Potluck Sunday (VEGGIE TALES in Nursery, one service at 9:00 a.m., Brunch after service)

## April

- 7 (Sun.) \*FAMILY SUNDAY
- 14 (Sun.) Palm Sunday and Reading of the Passion at both services
- 18 (Thurs.) Maundy Thursday (Eucharist Service with Washing of the Feet at 7:30 p.m., Agape meal and Nightwatch Vigil follows service)
- 19 (Fri.) Good Friday: Stations of the Cross at noon;  
BCP Service at 7:30 p.m.
- 20 (Sat.) Easter Vigil Service at 7:30 p.m.
- 21 (Sun.) Easter (Egg Hunt at 9:00, NO CHURCH SCHOOL, but VEGGIE TALES in Nursery)

## May

- 12 (Sun.) \*FAMILY SUNDAY/ Mothers' Day (NO CHURCH SCHOOL, but VEGGIE TALES in Nursery)

## June

- 9 (Sun.) Pentecost, Education Sunday and Final Day of Church School Classes, Recognition of graduates and those students advancing in school careers at the 10:00 am service  
VEGGIE TALES in Nursery
- 16 (Sun.) Father's Day/ VEGGIE TALES in Nursery
- 30 (Sun.) Potluck Sunday (VEGGIE TALES in Nursery, Brunch after 9:00 a.m. service)