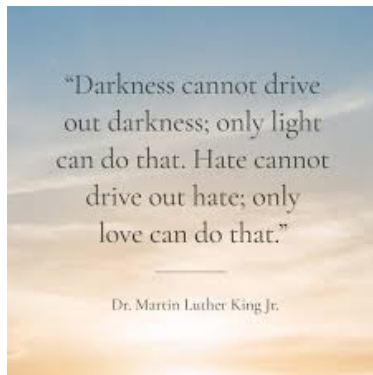


November 8, 2024

Dear Friends,



Our time of prayer on Monday evening and Tuesday afternoon was a good way to begin the week. Sitting quietly in the chapel, I thought of all who have come to that sacred space with prayers of need, grief, and thanksgiving. In times of uncertainty, we are drawn to seek community -- our mental and physical health is bolstered when we share our feelings and concerns with friends who listen without judgement. And of course, we remember that **Jesus said, "when two or three are gathered in my name, I am there with them."** Our spirits know God's presence and power in a more tangible way when we can hear each other's voices and share a hug.



Over the last several days, I have heard folks express a wide range of emotions and concerns for the future, especially for those who are marginalized or vulnerable. I share your commitment to show up, listen and act for justice and the well-being of all people. We will discern together what that looks like in the coming months and years. This week, let's **gather after church in the Parish Hall this Sunday** to check in with each other, listening and sharing hospitality.

prayers for peace,

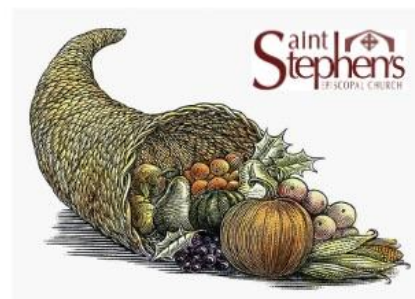
Jennifer +

Stewardship Season is Underway:

This is a time of gratitude for all the blessings in our lives and parish, so we offer **"Thanksgiving for New Beginnings."** Hopefully, you received stewardship materials in the mail this week. If not, please let **Laura Lambert** know.

Please **return your pledge card by November 20** so it can be included in the offertory on Ingathering Sunday, November 24. Contact **Monty McGovern** with questions.

Thanksgiving for New Beginnings



Stewardship 2024

Forum with Rev. Danae Ashley on Sunday, November 17
from 11:30 am -12:30 pm Come learn about Saint Hildegard

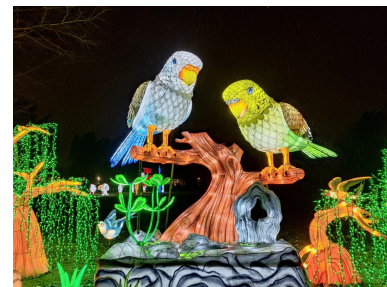
von Bingen, a polymath and German Benedictine abbess who lived from 1098-1179 in the Rhine Valley. She was a Prophetess, Composer, Physician, Environmentalist, Preacher, Mystic, Political Advisor, Advice Columnist and Inventor of Language. The Rev. Danée Ashley is an Episcopal priest, international speaker, and author of a forthcoming book on Hildegard and psychotherapy.



Advent Spirituality on Sunday, December 1 from 11:30-12:30

Advent is a time of preparation and wonder as we anticipate Christ's birth -- the one who brings light and life for the world. Come reflect on Advent symbols and traditions and learn about spiritual practices that could nurture you and deepen your faith that "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5).

St. Stephen's @ Zoo Lights! On Tuesday, December 3rd at 5:30, join fellow parishioners for the Wildlanterns art and light display at the Woodland Park Zoo . Tickets can be purchased online [here](#). There is a discount for seniors on December 3rd and all ages are welcome. Feel free to invite friends and family members. We will meet just past the West Gate entrance ticket takers.



Please email **Kathy Graunke** and **Jennifer Gary** to let us know you are coming. Kathy's phone number is 206-321-0189 and Jennifer's is 206-854-6271. Call if you are running late or can't find us. There will be options for food and drink, details TBD. If you need or can offer transportation, please email us. We look forward to seeing you!

Sharing Our Bounty with Neighbors at Sand Point Community Housing

For Thanksgiving, St. Stephen's will be using Benevity funds to provide turkey dinners for 83 residents of Santos Place and Phyllis Gutierrez Kennedy Place. If you have a Safeway discount coupon toward a future purchase, we can use it to stretch our donation. Please bring it to church and give it to Jack Irby.

For Christmas, St Stephen's will write greeting cards that include a generous gift card from Fred Meyer. Donations of \$50 gift cards or funds to purchase them are most welcome. Be part of the **card-writing on Sunday, December 8th at 11:30 in the Parish Hall.**

Advent Party and Carol Sing: Mark your calendar for **Sunday, December 15**, the third Sunday of Advent. Also known as "Gaudete Sunday," we will share our joy over the coming of Christmas with a carol sing and soup party after church from **11:30-12:30 pm**. More details to come!

Community Engagement

Laurelhurst's
"Emergency Communication Hub"
is hosting a FREE class...



Bleeding is the leading cause of preventable death after injury.
A person can bleed to death in < 5 minutes.
Emergency responders will arrive as quickly as possible,
but bystanders are almost always there first.

Learn how to save a life.

Monday, Nov 18
7pm to 8pm
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
(4805 NE 45th Street, 98105)

A national program of:



Seats are limited.
Register here...



Bring Christmas to a Seafarer!

Every year, the Seattle Seafarers Center (Mission to Seafarers) provides over 1,000 ditty bags stuffed with basic personal necessities to merchant seafarers. These bags are one way we give thanks for these essential and often hidden workers, and help seafarers celebrate the holidays while they are far from home. Help make a seafarer's Christmas by providing them with a ditty bag to say thank you!

You can participate by making drawstring bags or knit hats, or purchase basic supplies (shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste) and drop those off at the Center. Financial gifts for supplies are deeply appreciated, too! Visit SSC's website [here](#) or **email the Center**.

Coming Up at St. Stephen's

Sundays 10:00am Holy Eucharist (Nave/Church) and Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)
Sundays 3:00pm Youth Group Food Program (Narthex)
Wednesdays 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Parish Hall)

November 10 11:30 am Parish Gathering and Check-In (Parish Hall)
November 13 8:00 am Men's Breakfast (Parish Hall Kitchen)
November 17 11:30 am Forum on Hildegard of Bingen (Parish Hall)
November 24 11:30 am Ingathering Sunday Festive Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)
December 3 5:30 pm Parish Event at Zoo Lights (Woodland Park Zoo)
December 1 11:30 Advent Spirituality (Parish Hall)
December 8 11:30 am Card-Writing and Gifts for Sand Point Comm. Housing (Parish Hall)
December 15 11:30 Carol Sing and Advent Party (Parish Hall)



Try email marketing for free today!