

May 16, 2025

Today is the birthday of Pulitzer Prize-winning writer, historian, and radio personality **Studs Terkel**, born in New York City in 1912. Famous for his oral histories of "ordinary" people, Terkel's attention to the dignity and unique lives of those he interviewed led to many holy conversations, revealing our common longing -- and capacity -- for meaning and connection.



Terkel's final book is [Hope Dies Last: Keeping the Faith in Troubled Times](#). In an interview about the book, he said, *"I hope for peace and sanity — it's the same thing. I want a language that speaks the truth. I want people to talk to one another no matter what their difference of opinion might be. I want, of course, peace, grace, and beauty. How do you do that? You work for it. . . . And I hope that memory is valued — that we do not lose memory."* May it be so!



This **Sunday, May 18**, we welcome The Rev. **Canon Ivar Hillesland**, who will preach and facilitate a parish forum on "Sources of Transformation" **at 11:30 am**. Ivar oversees congregational development, including The College for Congregational Development, leadership formation, and the coordination of consultants in the Diocese of Olympia. A lifelong Lutheran, Ivar is also an avid musician who loves to lead and write music for the church (thereverbcollective.com).

Sunday, June 1, 11:30 am
Parish Forum on St. Stephen's Music Ministry

One of St. Stephen's Mutual Ministry Goals for 2025 is to "**Explore opportunities to enhance and grow the music program.**" Music is an important part of the parish's spiritual DNA, and we have a long history of making, celebrating, and sponsoring music. Come talk with Minister of Music John Terauds and Rev. Jennifer about ways we can experiment with new offerings of music - to the parish and the broader community.





Staff Update: Welcome to Claudia Basile, Communications and Operations Manager

Claudia Basile joined St. Stephen's on May 20 as our new Communications and Operations Manager. Claudia is a graduate of Knox College in Galesberg, IL, with a degree in History and a minor in Religious Studies. Claudia will be assuming the duties of parish operations manager while also expanding our parish communications via livestream, website, and social media in the coming months. You can find her at church on **Sunday mornings and on Tuesday,**

Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 am - 5 pm. She writes, *"I'm so excited to begin my work at St. Stephen's! I'm looking forward to doing my part to support the church's mission and connect with the communities at the parish and in Laurelhurst. I'm always happy to chat and would love to get to know you!"*

Hadestown, the musical

Roosevelt High School Theater
May 22 - June 1, 2025



Our own **Walter Kinney** is performing in Roosevelt High School's production of Hadestown! Anais Mitchell's haunting, jazz-inflected folk opera follows Orpheus' mythical quest to overcome Hades and regain the favor of his one true love, Eurydice. Purchase tickets **here**.

Update from Beth Cogan on Community Outreach Opportunities

Thank you to everyone who stayed Sunday April 6th to hear about needs at the University District Food Bank and from the Eckstein Social Work. Here is the link to the **Eckstein Community Cupboard Wishlist**. Any donation are appreciated and will benefit families.

We have also included a link to the **SESSFA Move-a-Thon Fundraising Drive**. Seventeen South Seattle public schools unite for the 5th Annual SE Seattle Schools Fundraising Alliance Annual Move-a-thon. Please help spread the word and contribute if you can!



As the Salmon Run, a new play by Elizabeth Clark-Stern

Saturday, May 31 and June 7, 2:00 pm
Good Shepherd Center, 4649 Sunnyside Ave, Room 202

Elizabeth Clark-Stern invites you to the performance of her new play. We are grateful she is donating a portion of the proceeds to St. Stephen's!

As the Salmon Run takes place in the not-too-distant future. The natural and human environments are in a state of flux. The engineer who built the 15th dam on the Columbia River in Eastern Washington opens her home, the so-called "After House," to people displaced by the warming climate. She is sensitive to criticism that her dam hastened the extinction of species in the river, and wants to

provide a stable dwelling for those unhoused in body and soul. Guests arrive whose mere presence challenges the climate refugees to build community, experience love, and embrace hope in a world reeling from ecological, social, and political change.

Coming Up at St. Stephen's

Sundays 10:00 am Holy Eucharist and Coffee Hour (Nave and Parish Hall)

Sundays 3:00 pm. Youth Group Food Program (Narthex)

Wednesdays 6:30 pm Men's Bible Study (Parish Hall)

May 18 11:30 am Forum with Canon Ivar Hillesland (Parish Hall)

June 2. 11:30 am Forum on Expanding St. Stephen's Music Offerings (Parish Hall)

June 28 10:00 am Funeral for Skipper Skelly (Epiphany Parish)

The Rev. Jennifer King Daugherty

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