



# ST. STEPHEN THIS WEEK

St. Stephen Lutheran Church Newsletter

*All are Welcome*

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Potluck Easter Breakfast  
Sunday, March 31, 2024

Breakfast Served 8:15am  
Children's Egg Hunt 9:15am  
Service 10:00am

## THIS MONTH'S NOISY OFFERING GOES TO...

You know those physician assistants in your doctor's office? Did you ever wonder where they were trained? Maybe it was right here at FSU's College of Medicine – where community outreach and “serving the underserved” is a high priority, as it is at St. Stephen. That's why St. Stephen Outreach Coordinator Sharon Simmons invited a College of Medicine PA faculty member to be our Ministry Minute speaker last Sunday.

Assistant Professor Allison Justice advises the student-led program called HOME Street Medicine. Established in 2022, it's designed for “Bridging the gap for our unhoused neighbors.” HOME, by the way, stands for Homeless Outreach Medicine and Education.

“We engage with the unsheltered population where they live, building relationships, offering companionship and respect, performing health screenings, and directing them to primary care follow-up available with community health centers throughout Leon County,” according to the notes that Allison sent us Monday. “Our success has been the result of the continued passion of the students and faculty as well as collaboration with partners within and outside of FSU's [PA program], such as Kearney Center outreach workers, the Leon County Sheriff's Office and community health clinics.

“Based on the community needs determined by Kearney Center social workers, the health-care team enters encampments around the county to provide screenings and basic first-aid care. Based on the discussions we have with populations in these encampments, we relay their specific needs to our community partners to support basic needs. These rounds have identified unmet health-care needs, which have underscored the true need for our services.”

Later in their training, these PA students will continue to provide care at FSU’s regional campuses across the state. “Exposure to the unsheltered population within their community and their environment allows the future clinicians to develop compassion for the underserved population and encourages them to be more mindful of their unique needs,” Allison wrote. “Subsequently, clinicians who have been a part of HOME Street Med may better care for these communities.”

Now we at St. Stephen have a chance to help. During this Sunday’s Noisy Offering, please contribute whatever money you can – noisy or otherwise – to this PA outreach effort. If you write a check, include “HOME Street Med” in the memo line. For more information about PA education at the College of Medicine, visit <https://med.fsu.edu/pa/about>.



*Allison (on the right) was accompanied by first-year PA student Catherine Yoo (center) and first-year medical student Libby Smith. In a text Monday morning, Allison said to Sharon Simmons, "I'm impressed by your congregation. You all have a culture that is missing in society. I feel that your desires to help others are genuine, and it is reassuring in this broken world. I am glad that St. Stephen is in our community." (Photo by Sharon)*



## AH, SPRING

Throughout most of the year, Meridian Road passersby think we’re just a church with a bunch of bushes. But at this time of year, we’re the “Man, look at all those azaleas!” church. Thanks to the workday that Sandy Lamb-Daniels organized last Saturday, we now have fewer weeds to distract us from the azaleas’ glory. Some volunteers even spent time sprucing up the kitchen. It’s beginning to look a lot like Easter.

## EXCERPT FROM PASTOR TOM’S SERMON

... As we wrap up our sermon series for Lent, we might recall the ways we’ve grown since those ashes were smeared on our foreheads. What fruits have you and I born?

Let me name some of them for you. You’ve made phone calls and written and sent gifts to people who have experienced the death of a loved one. You’ve made food and set up and cleaned up after meals that have helped people know of God’s love and resurrection. You’ve sung, played instruments and danced in death’s face. You’ve assisted the hungry, provided shelter for people without it, given away treasure that was used for food and the mission of the church.

There are countless other things you’ve done to bear fruit that I don’t even know about – but God knows them all....

## BEFORE YOU GO...



- Pictured above are the OWLs at their latest luncheon, photographed once again by Supreme OWL Margaret Bowers. From left: Barbara Sullivan, Emily Jennings, Pastor Tom, Loraine Sundberg, Ridy Hofer, Janet Barber, Jim Christianson, Lawana Lamb-Daniels, Linda Eshleman and Bob Eshleman. Can you guess which restaurant?
- Manna on Meridian needs our help Sunday afternoon. This note went out to Manna volunteers yesterday: "The flooring in the back was laid earlier this week and the shelving is being moved now through Saturday. We need volunteers to help us move all our inventory from the temporary storage room to the shelving in the back on Sunday at 4 p.m. To be able to best assist, you will need to be able to lift a flat of canned goods. We must have everything moved out of the temporary storage space before Monday morning." The storage room is at Faith Presbyterian, across the street from St. Stephen.



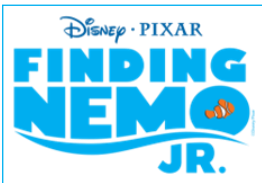
- Sunday is your last day to get raffle tickets from Barbara Ehlmann for that lovely quilt, to benefit KidSafe.

- Have questions about the St. Stephen/St. George camping trip coming up April 19-21? Ask Colin Hackley ([colin@colinhackley.com](mailto:colin@colinhackley.com)) or Mark Greeley ([markhoffmangreeley@gmail.com](mailto:markhoffmangreeley@gmail.com)).

- Be on the lookout for a honey-drenched fundraiser for the Tallahassee Youth Orchestra, says Stephanie Leitch. Details to come.



- "Finding Nemo Jr." at Young Actors Theatre runs April 5- 14. Tickets are on sale at [www.youngactorstheatre.com](http://www.youngactorstheatre.com). "There is a special sensory-friendly show scheduled for Sunday, April 7, if anyone knows of families with young children or those with autism or other disabilities who may need some special accommodations," says Jen Reece. "Please reach out to Tammi or me if you have any questions or want the specific shows that Graham and Will are in. Thanks for all the wonderful St. Stephen support!"



- We hear that Sharon Simmons worked as a deputy at a polling place for Tuesday's primary election. Good work, Sharon.
- If you have an anniversary, birthday, special memory or special St. Stephen person or program you'd like to honor, celebrate by sponsoring the altar flowers for our service. Sign up on the flower chart, out by the nametags, or ask Lori to sign you up. Include the \$40 with your regular offering. And then take the flowers home!



## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Stephanie Leitch - 03/27  
Davis Holdcraft - 04/01  
Gordon Fleischer - 04/06  
Colin Hackley - 04/06  
Vicki Guttenplan - 04/07  
Beth Alexander - 04/11  
Rudy Hehn - 04/12  
Donna Schiffer - 04/13  
Erik Robinson - 04/14  
Elizabeth Halvorson - 04/15



## COMING UP

### Today:

Noon - Al-Anon meets in fellowship hall (FH)  
7 p.m. - AA meets in FH

### This Friday:

9:30 a.m. - TOPS meets in FH

### This Saturday:

1:30 p.m. - Al-Anon meets in FH

### This Sunday:

9:00 a.m. - Book study  
9:30 a.m. - Choir practice  
10 a.m. - Worship, Sunday of the Passion/  
Palm Sunday  
1:10 p.m. - On Purpose Women meets in FH  
4 p.m. - Congolese Christian worship in FH

### Monday, March 25

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in FH

### Wednesday, March 27:

5 p.m. - TIMA meets in FH  
7 p.m. - Choir practice

### Thursday, March 28:

7 p.m. - Worship, Maundy Thursday

### Friday, March 29:

7 p.m. - Worship, Good Friday

### Sunday, March 31:

8:15 a.m. - Easter Breakfast  
9:15 a.m. - Easter Egg Hunt  
10 a.m. - Worship, Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day



If you have news or photos to share,  
please send them to Lori at  
[sslc@ststephenlutherantally.com](mailto:sslc@ststephenlutherantally.com).

Don't forget our Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/ststephentallahassee>.

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The Rev. Tom Holdcraft, Pastor