



Seminarian to Intern at St. Stephen's For Two Years

For the first time in many years, St. Stephen's will have a seminarian. Fletcher Wells, a middler at Virginia Seminary, will begin his experience at St. Stephen's in September.

A native of New Mexico, Fletcher graduated in 2003 from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA, with a BS degree in chemistry. He has served as a chaplain intern at Shrinemont, the Conference Center for the Diocese of Virginia, for senior high youth conferences. He spent a year before beginning seminary working in Boston in an inner city ministry largely doing street work.

Fletcher is excited about his two-year commitment to St. Stephen's, and in fact was regularly worshiping with us for several months preceding his summer break. He is particularly grateful to be in a community which is creative in its worship and committed to Christian social ministry. As a training site, we are committed to allow our seminarian to experience the full range of ministry: pastoral, liturgical, preaching educational, societal, as appropriate within canonical boundaries and time constraints. Fletcher and I have met to work out a learning agreement. Our plan is that he will cycle through most of the positions involved in liturgy. As we develop liturgy planning teams (more on this soon!), he will participate in those, learning how to design as well as lead worship. Fletcher is keen on beginning a group experience for young adults. He will also be involved in other parish activities, including serving at Loaves and

Fishes and possibly helping with some L&F administrative chores. He will be involved in planning and leading some adult education, and possibly with the new Hispanic ministry.

We are currently forming a committee of lay people who will act as Fletcher's advisory committee. The committee, consisting of five to seven members, will assist Fletcher in his development as a priest, and who will walk with him as fellow pilgrims and disciples who share in common the joys and struggles of life and faith, growing and learning together. Members will be committed to attending monthly meetings of two hours, September through April, to reflect with Fletcher on the field experience and their mutual ministries. Virginia Seminary offers periodic seminars to assist lay committee's in doing their work effectively.

One of my commitments as field supervisor will be to meet regularly, weekly or bi-weekly with the seminarian, and to attend monthly training sessions for supervisors at the seminary.

Expect to welcome Fletcher when he joins us in September to begin this chapter in our life together.

-Frank Dunn, Senior Priest

BREAD

July 10, 2005

The Eighth
Sunday After
Pentecost

Number 1526

ST. STEPHEN'S VESTRY SEEKS INDIVIDUAL TO ATTEND MEETINGS TO TAKE MINUTES AND HELP ENSURE DOCUMENTS ARE MAINTAINED. FREE FOOD! GREAT CONVERSATION!
SEE FERN HUNT IF INTERESTED.

BAPTISM

The next opportunity for baptism will be Sunday, September 4. If you or a family member wishes to be baptized that day, please contact the church office.

BREAD

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Some St. Stephen's Summer Happenings***"Sending Forth" Christina Way and Jim Stipe***

On Sunday, July 24, we'll "send forth" Jim Stipe and Christina Way during the 10:30 service. Jim and Christina attended St. Stephen's for six years until they moved to NYC two years ago. Jim served on the Service/Outreach Committee, and Christina with Loaves and Fishes and the Vestry. They were married at St. Stephen's in 2003. Most importantly, the St. Stephen's community is dear to their hearts.

They will be moving to Islamabad, Pakistan for one year. Christina will be working with CRS, a relief and development agency, doing strategic planning and monitoring and evaluation of education programs. And Jim, after working for nine years at Bread for the World,

People News

Inez Haynes collapsed during the 10:30 service on Sunday, June 19. Although she seemed just fine when she recovered, the paramedics who attended to her at St. Stephen's detected a problem with her heart and whisked her off to Howard University Hospital's Emergency Room. The problem wasn't too serious—all that was needed were some modifications to medications she takes—but she spent 5 nights there. She came home on Thursday, June 23, and said all was well.

Bryan Crocheron is donating one of his kidneys to his sister, Michelle Crocheron Montgomery, who has been on our prayer list for the past few months. The operation is scheduled for July 11.

will be taking a month or two to rest before looking for work with NGOs in the city. Pakistan is a low-income country with literacy rates of 45% and is 97% Muslim. They would deeply appreciate your prayers during the coming year.

Contemplative Prayer Group Meets Tuesday Evenings

A group of parishioners have formed a contemplative prayer group that meets every Tuesday from 7-8pm in the sanctuary. Please join in! If you'd like more information, please contact Susan Kyle (240-460-6539; susan.kyle@mail.sit.edu).

Windsor Response

In response to the controversy after the consecration of Eugene Robinson as Bishop, an Anglican panel issued a report to try to help heal the divisions in the communion. One request made in that report, the Windsor Report, was for "a contribution from the Episcopal Church (USA) which explains, from within the sources of authority that we as Anglicans have received in scripture, the apostolic tradition and reasoned reflection, how a person living in a same gender union may be considered eligible to lead the flock of Christ." The Episcopal Church has just released its 135-page response; it is available on the web (you'll find a link on our website). Kathy Grieb was one of seven theologians who helped write the response. It is a very powerful response, written with great humility, and is highly recommended.

Darfur Worship Witness

It wasn't hard to think of hot, dusty Darfur as the heat beat up from the pale stone pavement of Freedom Plaza, around the corner from the National Press Building in downtown Washington two Sundays ago. Two hundred of us were singing—to the snowy tune of Good King Wenceslas—"Peace with everyone we seek, good for evil giving" as part of an ecumenical act of public religious worship that was also a political witness.

For five Sundays, finishing with a 1pm service on July 10 in Lafayette Square, a coalition of people of faith has challenged the institutions of Washington to face the continuing genocide in Darfur, western Sudan. The service has been held at a different site each week to represent the sources of power in the nation's capital.

On this Sunday, we zeroed in on the media. It's the first time I've ever prayed for Fox News and The Wall Street Journal by name. We were given hand-out sheets on how to write a good "letter to the editor" in our own words, with some accurate statistics on Darfur. Our mandate: to remind the press of their responsibility to make sure that Tom Cruise's love life or Michael Jackson's trial should not push out news on the ongoing pain of Africa. (The Washington Post, to its credit, had an excellent editorial to support Darfur on June 14 of this year.)

A Darfur spokesman, on a closing note, asked us to remember Darfur each time we drank a soda. A small but vital ingredient in sodas is gum Arabic, a tree resin used as an emulsifying agent by the world's food industries, who are watching the Darfur tragedy with a commercial eye.

Back home I looked up gum arabic on the web. The American Botanical Council's website told me: "Both the subsistence farmers who collect the raw material and the trees that produce the valuable resin are fighting for their survival . . . The Sudanese gum arabic is considered one of the world's largest and most prized crops because of its quality and consistency. The Darfur region where most of the civil strife is occurring produces over two-thirds of the world's supply of gum arabic."

On the web at www.worship4justice.org you can read about these five Sundays and their organizers, Sojourners, Cedar Ridge Community Church, Africa Action, and the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism. They urged churches to come as a group, "complete with a banner or sign." I'd love to line up behind St. Stephen's banner at something like this one day.

-Kim Klein

WORSHIP at St. Stephen's

Sundays

8:00a—

Holy Eucharist,
Rite I

10:30a—

Holy Eucharist,
Rite II with
Children's
Spiritual
Formation

Celebrants and
Preachers

7/10: The Rev.
Kathy Grieb

7/17: The Rev.
Frank Dunn

Housing Needed

From time to time we receive requests for temporary housing for people coming to DC to work on peace and justice issues. The latest is from an Episcopal church in Iowa; a parishioner coming to DC in September to work in the Sojourners community is looking for housing for at least the first few nights of her time here. If you can help in September, or at any other point, please let the church office know.

LECTIONS

8th Sunday After Pentecost (July 10)

Genesis 25: 19-34
Psalm 119: 105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

9th Sunday After Pentecost (July 17)

Genesis 28: 10-19a
Psalm 139: 1-12, 23-24
Romans 8: 12-25
Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

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THE SAINTS

Monday, July 11
BENEDICT OF NURSIA, ABBOT OF MONTE CASSINO, c. 540
Birthday: Judith Timol

Tuesday, July 12
Birthday: Ryan Kaufman, Simon Kienitz Kincade

Friday, July 15
Heavenly Birthday: Ruth Steinem, 1981

Saturday, July 16
Birthday: Rochelle Miller

Sunday, July 17
WILLIAM WHITE, BISHOP OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1836

Wednesday, July 20
Heavenly Birthday: Eleanor L. Walker, 1989

Friday, July 22
SAINT MARY MAGDALENE
Heavenly Birthday: Kenrick Graham, 2000

ON THE COVER...
St. Stephen Icon

THE PRAYERS

Here's who we've been praying for recently:

•Jonah Best, Jennifer Blackman, Edith & Craig Eder, Millie Fenwick, Leota Lawrence, Brother John Mathis, Ruth Murphy, Elizabeth Palmberg, Keith Preddie, Daphne Piper, and all who desire to be restored to health; those who are home-bound; and all who care for aging relatives, the sick and the homebound;

•Patricia Davis-Muffett, and her baby-in-the-making;
•Melissa Abel, Connie Adeyeri, Roger Beach, Duane Bonds, Bob Broadwater, the Brown family, The Bright/Veneklasen family, Martha Carty, Romel Dick, Katie Finley, Doreen Granum, Sunny Jackson, Susie Johnson, Evelyn Jones, Dana Jordan, Maia Lawrence, Robert Dean McClellan, Joe Midgely, Michelle Crocheron Montgomery, Carroll Muffett, Barbara Oldland, Karl Palmberg, Marisella Ruiz Ibarra, the Schmidt/Melchar family, Robert Spittler, the Revs. Katrina & George Swanson, Christina Way & Jim Stipe, Willard Webster, the Rev. Carolyn West, Astrid West-Harrington, Ellen Williams, and all those who have been commended to our prayers;

•For the repose of the soul of Mary Catherine Crockett (mother of Cam Crockett), and for all who mourn her.

BREAD

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