

# 2006

Excerpts from the last  
25 issues of BREAD

## The Year in Review

### **An Afternoon of Celebration and Fun**

The *Diversiteers* invite you and your family to share an afternoon of crafts/ games, theatre, dance and dining on Sunday, January 15, 2006 – Dr. Martin Luther King’s Birthday. The next day is a holiday. No need to worry about getting up early, we should be able to celebrate until at least 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.!

-January 8

### **2005: Most Growth in Years**

Our annual report to the Diocese shows St. Stephen’s growing from 124 active adults at the beginning of 2005 to 140 at the end. This 13% increase is the largest one-year increase since we began keeping accurate information in 1996. Unfortunately, the number of children we count as active members did not change in 2005.

Will we grow another 13% in 2006? Invite your friends to church, and a year from now we just might be saying that we count 158 adults as active members!

-January 22

### **First Bi-Lingual Mass**

On Christmas Eve [2005] at the 5pm service, we celebrated a bilingual Eucharist. The fact that only two native Spanish speakers showed up was only a little disappointing. Good and sturdy things usually grow slowly.

For me the service was a wonderful success. The spirit and enthusiasm of our congregation as we responded and

sang in both English and Spanish was to me a sign that we are ready for this to happen. I am convinced of the rightness of this ministry at this time.

-The Rev. Sarabeth Goodwin, January 22

### **Meet Our New Members**

Mitchell Bond, Patrick Ellis, Paul Bugala, Catherine Bugala, Moira Clar- kin & Jai Evans (and Benjamin and Amelia), Carla Crocheron, and Anna Gilcher will join St. Stephen’s on New- comer Sunday, February 5.


-February 5

### **Observations from our Latino Missioner**

On the Thursday before my ordina- tion, I received a card from the people of St. Stephen’s announcing that a custom designed stole had been commissioned for my Ordination. When I opened the card and saw how many people had signed it, my eyes began to well up. It was quite a testament of your support. The stole will be inscribed with the fol- lowing verse: “But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” It will be a fitting gift from St. Stephen’s Parish. I pray that I may wear it faithfully.

-The Rev. Sarabeth Goodwin, February 5

### **Lenten Prayer Shawl Knitting and Crocheting Group**

Interested in joining a Lenten Prayer Shawl group? We will alter-  page 2

# BREAD

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Jan. 7, 2007

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The First  
Sunday after  
the Epiphany

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Number 1565

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EPIPHANY  
EUCHARIST

SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 6

9:30AM

**BAPTISM**

At the 10:30 service on January 7, we'll baptize Isabel Muffett, daughter of Patricia Davis-Muffett and Carroll Muffett, and little sister of Kate Muffett.

**BREAD**

is the newsletter of St. Stephen and the Incarnation Episcopal Church

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ü *page 1* nate between homes on Friday evenings to knit/crochet prayer shawls, pray for the recipient of the shawls, and enjoy a simple soup supper together.

-February 5

### **Reencuentro con la Fe — Reencountering Faith**

At 5pm on Sunday, March 5, our first Spanish eucharist took place. Attended by over 25 people, the first eucharist was a pleasant success.

Here's a report on the first service from Hugo Perez: "Tenía muchos deseos de participar en un servicio religioso. Al principio me sentía nervioso, pero a medida que el coro cantó, el himno de entrada se desarrolló, fui contagiado por esa alegría, que se manifiesta al entonar esos cantos religiosos. Mis nervios volvieron a su lugar, y tuve la dicha de escuchar un mensaje con mucha elocuencia de la palabra de Dios. La Homilía, pronunciada por la Reverenda Madre Sarabeth, me dejó una enseñanza muy importante en estos tiempos de cuaresma. Me sentía vibrar con una manifestación de la presencia de Dios en la misa."

-March 19

### **Anna Gilcher Hired as Children's Ed Assistant**

Good news. We have a new interim Christian Education Assistant on board to coordinate and strengthen our children's programs! Yea, Anna Gilcher!

-April 16

### **Signs of New Life**

Signs of new life all around us? It just hit me recently — all kinds of new

things are "growing" at St. Stephen's these days. Not only are the trees provided last spring by the Casey Foundation coming back to life, I see evidence of growth and new life everywhere this spring.

A few weeks ago the choir had 21 people (a record for the past 6-7 years!) present to sing a beautiful "Ave Maria" under the direction of our talented interim music director, Mark Vogel.

Attendance at the 10:30 liturgy has grown noticeably — to the point that we're getting crowded in the pews and even more crowded when we're all up at the altar for the Eucharistic prayer and communion.

Perhaps the most amazing new event in the parish is the Hispanic ministry, which just last month began — five weeks ahead of schedule — regular weekly liturgies in Spanish at 5pm on Sundays.

-Harry Leich, April 16

New life is in the air. I feel it every time I think about or spend time at St. Stephen's. Here's some of what I see:

- More people on Sundays
- An amazing series of Adult Forums; people's stories are compelling.
- More voices in the readings
- Art
- More people singing
- And the ever illusive: more joy and energy in the worship.

I could go on and on; but I'll leave it at this: more of all that is good is popping up at St. Stephen's.

-Linda Kaufman, April 16

What I feel at St. Stephen's right now is a certain kind of ease or, dare I say, peace? This is not to be equated with no issues, no conflict, or passivity or lethargy. There's just a kind of spacious-

# WORSHIP

at St. Stephen's

ness and acceptance—maybe a kind of maturity?—that has allowed us to trust each other's good intentions and live into our strengths and capacities as the people of God. I feel it in the art, in the music, in the steady progress toward freshening up the building, in quiet heartfelt conversations, in people openly and lovingly sharing their stories during Sunday school, in moving, deep and challenging sermons...and in my own ability to relax into the mixed bag that is me and be...free.

-Kelsey Menehan, April 16

## Prayer Chain Forms

Recently a Prayer Chain has been started as a ministry of our parish. The purpose is to intercede for persons regarding a special need in their lives. Christ is at God's right hand interceding for us, and Christ lives with us in God. Praying for our sisters and brothers helps us "set our minds on things that are above." Christ is risen, and it changes everything!

-April 16

## A Crowded Church!

St. Stephen's 10:30 service on Easter Day was attended by 173 people — the largest congregation in at least 15 years, aside from weddings and funerals.

-April 30

## Young Adults Group Forms

After much talk about the desire for such a group, the first gathering of YASSI (otherwise known as the Young Adults of St. Stephen and the Incarnation) took place, after our seminarian Fletcher Wells took the lead and made it happen.

The twenty- and thirty-somethings gathered there first focused on devour-

ing all of the delicious potluck items. Then discussion turned to what we wanted this group to look like. The consensus was that most of us were looking for a peer group to talk with about issues we were currently facing, that others were likely facing as well. Most importantly, we wanted a Christ-centered and welcoming place to discuss these issues.

-May 14

## WIN's Neighborhoods First Campaign

It's been described as the perfect political storm. With six council seats and the mayor's office open, the upcoming election season may result in what amounts to a tsunami in District politics. For community activists it is an exciting yet precarious moment.

Over the past five years, the Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) has secured commitments from several prominent district leaders to devote hundreds of millions of dollars towards fair and reasonable community development. At this point, it is uncertain whether the new leadership will recognize these same priorities when they assume office next year.

In response to this situation WIN has launched its 2006 *Vote Neighborhoods First* election campaign aimed at making affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization and youth investment issues of central political importance to the election debate.

St. Stephen's has an important role to play in the Ward 1 effort. Columbia Heights and Mt. Pleasant face the likelihood of drastic change. The WIN election campaign provides us with a unique opportunity to help protect the character of our neighborhood and ensure that all of its residents

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## Sundays

### 8:00a—

Holy Eucharist, Rite I

### 10:30a—

Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Children's Spiritual Formation

### 5:00pm—

Misa en Español

## Celebrants and Preachers

**1/7:** The Rev. Frank Dunn (8:00); The Rev. Frank Dunn Celebrant; The Rev. Kathy Grieb, Preacher (10:30)

**1/14:** The Rev. Ronald Conner (8:00); The Rev. Joe Clark, Celebrant; The Rev. Rosemarie Duncan, Preacher (10:30)

## MARRIAGES

Jeremy Edwards  
and Amy  
Nakamoto

Louise Dyer and  
Falan Yinug

Susan Kyle and  
Carlos Quintana

Cecilia Maria de  
las Mercedes  
Duquela Fentes  
and Roberto  
Louis Romero  
(Misa Alegria  
members)

ü *page 3* are treated fairly and with  
dignity.

-May 28

### ***Eleven Join St. Stephen's***

Diane Aten, Jessica Baumgarten,  
Nicholas Clark, Jeremy Edwards, Meg  
Herndon, Andrea Kraynak, Susan Kyle,  
Luciano Muzzatti, Amy Nakamoto,  
Marie Stevanus, and Christine Wilson  
plan to join St. Stephen's on Pentecost.

-June 4

### ***Vestry Holds Planning Retreat***

St. Stephen's vestry held its annual  
planning retreat June 9 – 11. The vestry  
identified three major priorities for the  
year ahead: growth, the building, and  
mission.

**Growth:** the vestry discussed a num-  
ber of issues related to our growing con-  
gregation, including the need for more  
hymnals, the impact of growth on our  
senior priest's limited hours, and how  
we can integrate newcomers into our  
parish life.

**Building:** Much progress has been  
made in doing repair and improvements  
projects with the resources available.  
We foresee larger and more complex  
projects ahead, and we must begin to re-  
search the feasibility of raising the  
funds for these undertakings.

**Mission:** The vestry discussed parish  
outreach programs. Issues that came up  
include building use, WIN, our chang-  
ing neighborhood, Latino ministry, and  
an assessment of Loaves and Fishes.

-June 25

### ***Martin Padarathsingh Retires to Florida***

So as our brother, Martin, together  
with his wife, Nila, takes his leave of us

and moves to his new life and his new  
home in Sarasota, Fla., we wish both  
him and Nila Godspeed. We hope that  
they will visit us often.

-June 25

### ***Mark Vogel Named Parish Musician***

Mark Vogel plays to great  
reviews!

Mark came on board with the under-  
standing that he would have until Easter  
to size up the situation at St. Stephen's  
to see whether he wanted to commit for  
a longer term. Likewise, choir and con-  
gregation might see whether Mark  
might be a good fit for us.

Pentecost Day we entered into a new  
agreement with Mark, naming him Par-  
ish Musician. Never before have I been  
so besieged with letters, phone calls,  
emails, and notes saying, "We've got  
to have him!" Clearly Mark has not  
only proven his ability as a keyboardist  
and conductor, but has won a place in  
the hearts of the St. Stephen's family  
too.

-The Rev. Frank Dunn, July 9

### ***Goodbye, Gloria***

On Sunday, July 9, during our wor-  
ship services, St. Stephen's will say  
goodbye to the Gloria, the large reflec-  
tive sculpture that for three decades has  
hung over our altar and dominated our  
worship space. The Gloria will be re-  
moved by a team of parishioners the fol-  
lowing week.

-July 9

### ***Arts Collaborative Forms at St. Stephen's***

St. Stephen's has an Arts Collabora-  
tive! At its June 11 meeting, the Vestry

approved a proposal to create this group. The Collaborative’s guiding principles:

- Our work will be grounded in the seasonal liturgical life of the congregation.
- Our work will reflect the diversity of the congregation and the communities with whom we live and minister.
- Our work will encourage and nurture the individual and corporate making of art as an expression of faith.

-July 9

### **St. Stephen’s Continues Fight for Subsidized Housing**

The board of directors of Urban Village Corporation agreed July 12 to contribute \$5,000 to support the tenant association of the Cavalier Apartments at 3500 14th Street in its negotiations with Somerset Development to assist Somerset in buying the Cavalier.

Virtually all the apartments in the 250-unit building are subsidized Section 8 housing for low-and moderate-income people. The purchase will assure the preservation of subsidized housing at the Cavalier.

Urban Village Corporation, which negotiated that renovation, is directed one-third by St. Stephen’s members, two-thirds by residents of the church neighborhood. It also contributed \$10,000 recently toward the preservation of 1456 Oak Street (which is located one block north of St. Stephen’s) as low-income housing.

-July 23

### **Latino Ministry Adds a Choir**

Last month in my sermon on the parable of the Mustard Seed, I mentioned to the folks present at the Misa Alegria that each person had a gift to

offer that would help our congregation grow. Following the service, our musician, Cruz Aquilar came forward and offered to lead a choir practice on Wednesday nights. The following week, four adults, three teens and two young children gathered to practice the music for the following Sunday.

Our Wednesday night hymn sing has grown to include an hour of English conversation before choir practice. We are all at different levels of English language ability. Most have studied some English but don’t have much opportunity to practice their skills. Our sessions work like WD-40 to help loosen up the moving parts...like lips and tongues. The more recently arrived are anxious to learn, but don’t yet have the basic building blocks.

-The Rev. Sarabeth Goodwin, August 20

### **Fall Arts Program**

The Arts Collaborative at St. Stephen’s sponsors three exhibits plus related events this Fall.

Inaugurating the new season is an exhibition of photographic portraits entitled “Domini Est Terra” (“The earth is the Lord’s”). Four extremely gifted photographers—all members of the parish community—have come together to witness to the beauty of the pinnacle of God’s creative power and the strength and dignity of the human person.

The second show is “For All The Saints” and features photocopy collages by Daniel Kennedy; it will be on display in November.

The final show of the year, “Now Love Dwells Incarnate With Us”, will be from December 3 - January 28. It will be a benefit for Loaves and Fishes. The opening reception will be a community sing with Sweet

#### **BIRTHS**

Charles Hutson

#### **BAPTISMS**

Chris Canales (Misa Alegria member)

Amelia Evans

Maria Alfaro de Gonzalez (Misa Alegria member)

#### **DEATHS**

Judith Timol

## THREADERS

The Threaders of Saint Brigid - for January only - are changing their meetings to the 2nd and 4th Mondays.

The Threaders extend a warm and fuzzy invitation to new "knit-wits" to join them at 7pm each evening as they knit prayer shawls and other items.

The January 8 gathering is at Jane Lincoln's apartment; the January 22 gathering is at Jane Bishop's house.

ü *page 5* Honey and the Rock's Dr. Ysaye M. Barnwell on Tuesday, December 12.

-Sept. 17

### **Remembering Judith Timol**

Judith Timol's unexpected death at home from a heart attack early in the morning of October 4 has brought great heaviness to many hearts at St. Stephen's.

In the 12 years Judith and Tim have worshipped with us, we have come to treasure her calm and centered being, her loving heart, her special way with children, and her keen and articulate intellect. We trusted her voice. When we asked for her help, she prayed, and then she answered "yes" many times, many ways across these dozen years: teacher and coordinator of children's spiritual formation, member of the Vestry, of the nominating committee and, with Tim, members of Eleanor Holland's vocational discernment committee.

-October 15

### **Parish Weekend Away**

The weekend of October 13-15, some 30 parishioners attended the Parish Weekend Away. Bishop Claggett retreat house in Frederick County was home base; we hiked, played games, learned handcrafts, ate smores, and got to know each other. The parishioners bonded— young and old, newcomers and oldtimers.

-October 29

### **Newcomer Sunday**

Martin Bullock, Juan Corvelle-Williams, Aaron Hansen, Jessica Hansen, James Laws, and Michael Sherrard will join St. Stephen's on November 12.

-November 12

### **Sitter Cares for Young Children Every Sunday**

Did you know that every Sunday, a sitter is available during the 10:30 service to care for children who are too young for Sunday School?

Abi Hurlston, a student at St. John's High School, will be with us every Sunday through the end of the school year. Abi cares for wee ones in the recently-refurbished Marshall Room (the room to the left of the altar). The room has newly-painted walls, new carpet, and a host of clean and appropriate furniture.

Bring your little ones. Even better, invite your friends with little ones. We're ready for them.

-November 12

### **Another Great Halloween**

This year's Halloween party was a great success. About 100 kids from the neighborhood came by the church for some spooky fun.

Highlights of the party were face-painting, a scary witch daring kids to touch eyeballs and brains, and lots of games especially for the little kids. We had a several folks from our new Latino congregation join in the fun; the party is a great way to let the neighborhood know about Misa Alegria.

It's never too soon to start planning next year's party—we're thinking about making a haunted house in the balcony!

-November 12

### **Advent: A Knocking Sound**

This Advent, you will hear with unmistakable clarity a knocking at the door. The knock will punctuate the Advent liturgy at climactic moments, signaling to worshipers that something and Someone awaits a response.

-November 26

## *An Update on Loaves and Fishes*

You hear about the meals that take place every Saturday, every Sunday, and on federal Monday holidays. The meals have been around, in one form or another, for so long—since 1968—that most parishioners can't remember or weren't born when there weren't meals for the needy at St. Stephen and the Incarnation. We are especially reminded, this time of year, to donate our time, energy, goods, and money. With Thanksgiving and Christmas, it is one of the busiest times for Loaves and Fishes.

It turns out that, in addition to cooking and preparing meals, we on the management team need to get busy with other, equally important tasks, mainly, raising enough money to sustain the program at its current level. For a variety of reasons, we have not raised the funds this year that we had hoped to raise. While the program is in no immediate danger of closing, this obviously needs to change.

What I ask you to consider, in addition to your current generosity, is to dig a little more deeply into your pockets. The program relies on your support. It is crucial that we raise at least \$10,000 by December 31. This amount, unfortunately, will not entirely close our deficit for the year, but it will go a long way toward balancing our budget.

-November 26

## *We Welcome The Rev. Joe Clark to Our Clergy Team*

We are pleased to welcome The Rev. Joseph M. Clark as the newest member of our clergy team. Our team now contains six priests. Two—Frank Dunn and Sarabeth Goodwin—are salaried and work part-time. The others—Ronald

Conner, Kathy Grieb, and Linda Kaufman—earn their livings in other ways.

-December 10

## *La Misa Alegría Celebrates Las Posadas*

During the four Sundays of Advent, the Misa Alegría is celebrating the Posadas here at St. Stephen's with the other Latino congregations of the Diocese. The Posadas, a word meaning "inn," are celebrated in many cultures of Latin America. They are typically re-enactments, using songs and procession, of Mary and Joseph's wanderings in search of shelter where Mary can bring her baby into the world.

-December 10

## *As We Come to Year's End*

The Vestry held its December meeting on the 17th and learned then that it looks as if the church will be ending the year with a deficit. The final figures for 2006 are still being determined and analyzed.

Therefore I ask you, if you can, to please think of us in your year-end giving, completing your pledges if you haven't yet done so and giving St. Stephen's an additional contribution if you are so moved.

-Fern Hunt, December 10

## *Free Clinic to Depart*

The Washington Free Clinic has announced that it will leave St. Stephen's Church at the end of January, 2007. It is likely to merge with another organization; if the merger doesn't work out, it will close.

The Clinic's financial picture has been bleak for a decade, and their departure is primarily due to lack of funds to continue operations.

-December 24

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays,  
9:15am,

### **Adult Forum:**

•**Jan. 7:**

"Church [s]hopping at home and abroad: some personal observations from long ago and last month"

•**January 14:**

"Packing my bags for my spiritual journey"

•**January 21:**

"Faith in Transition"

Through January:

**"Now Love Incarnate with Us Dwells" Art Show**

Sunday,

Jan. 21, Noon:

**WIN Discussion on Power and Community**

# LECTIONS

1st Sunday after  
the Epiphany  
(January 7)

Isaiah 43:1-7  
Psalm 29

Acts 8:14-17  
Luke 3:15-17,  
21-22

2nd Sunday after  
the Epiphany  
(January 14)

Isaiah 62:1-5  
Psalm 36:5-10

I Corinthians  
12: 1-11

John 2:1-11

# THE SAINTS

**Tuesday, January 9**

JULIA CHESTER EMERY, 1922

**Wednesday, January 10**

WILLIAM LAUD, ARCHBISHOP OF  
CANTERBURY, 1645

**Thursday, January 11**

*Heavenly Birthday: Philip R.  
Newell III, parishioner, 1975*

**Friday, January 12**

AELROD, ABBOT OF RIEVAUX, 1167

**Saturday, January 13**

HILARY, BISHOP OF POITIERS, 367

**Sunday, January 14**

*Birthday: Patricia Gray, Fern  
Hunt*

**Tuesday, January 16**

*Birthday: Corinna McMullen*

**Wednesday, January 17**

ANTONY, ABBOT IN EGYPT, 356

**Thursday, January 18**

THE CONFESSION OF ST. PETER THE  
APOSTLE

**Friday, January 19**

WULFSTAN, BISHOP OF WORCESTER,  
1095

**Saturday, January 20**

FABIAN, BISHOP AND MARTYR OF ROME,  
250

*Heavenly Birthday: Florizell  
Cox, 2001*

**Sunday, January 21**

AGNES, MARTYR AT ROME, 304

*Birthday: Helen Langa, James  
Hurd, Ivy Lane*

# THE PRAYERS

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

- Michelle and Pete Dyro, and their baby-in-the-making;
- Isabel Muffett, to be baptized January 7;
- Elizabeth Palmberg, and all who desire to be restored to health; those who are home-bound; and all who care for aging relatives, the sick and
- Duane Bonds, Helen Bonds (mother of Duane), Dana Jordan (daughter of friend of Sally Ethelston; Dana is dying from bone cancer), and all those who have been commended to our prayers.

**in this  
issue ...**

2006  
in  
Review

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