

A PAGE FROM THE LONG AND AMAZING HISTORY OF ST. STEPHEN AND THE INCARNATION EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The 1990s & 2000s



The Rev. J. Carlyle Gill was rector of St. Stephen's from 1987 - 1996. She was particularly interested in developing after-school programs for neighborhood children, especially in the light of the drug trade then enveloping the neighborhood. Financial problems in 1996 resulted in a church decision to make the position of rector a half-time position, a decision Carlyle found unacceptable.

Following Carlyle's departure, St. Stephen's had no priest on staff until The Rev. Frank Dunn was hired in 2004. A strong team of clergy and lay leaders provided leadership, along with a paid, part-time parish coordinator. This intentional period of exploring alternative leadership models resulted in St. Stephen's deciding to hire Frank as Senior Priest, not rector, as a sign of **St. Stephen's emphasis on lay people and a clergy team sharing the leadership of the parish.**



Due to minimal maintenance work and age, our pipe organ had become barely functional by the early 2000s. Then

music director Joseph Dudzinski's **Pipe Dreams** campaign raised sufficient funds to renovate part of the organ. More work remains to be done.



St. Stephen's became a **landmark in the DC punk rock scene**. Bikini Kill, Nation of Ulysses, and many other influential bands played at St. Stephen's. Fugazi played here many times. Fugazi's Ian MacKaye was baptized at St. Stephen's.



Ian MacKaye and Fugazi, playing a benefit for the Washington Free Clinic at St. Stephen's March 6, 1992.



When the Washington Free Clinic closed, St. Stephen's raised funds and took out a loan in order to **renovate the third floor**. After \$250,000 of work in 2007, the third floor became home to a dozen non-profit organizations.



WIDENING THE CIRCLE THE CAMPAIGN FOR ST. STEPHEN'S