



GRACE *and* ST. STEPHEN'S
✦ EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✦

Grace Notes ~ February 11, 2026

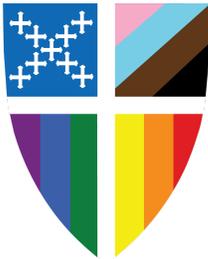
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Adult Formation Hour Topics

- **February 15** - Black History Month: Telling Our Story
- **February 22 & March 1** - Broken Altars, Rising Wings: George Herbert and the Poetry of Prayer. George Herbert (1593–1633) was a parish priest whose poetry grew out of the daily rhythms of Anglican worship. Together we will read and listen to Herbert's poems as acts of prayer, attending to how poetic language can shape the heart in humility, repentance, and hope. Led by parishioner Josh Hamm, Instructor of English at the Air Force Academy.
- **March 8, 15 & 22** - "The Voice of My Beloved": Reading the Song of Songs across Centuries, led by Carol Neel

LGBTQ+ Task Force Survey



Episcopalians are invited to complete a 15- to 20-minute survey offered by the Task Force on LGBTQ+ Inclusion to help the church better understand how it honors the dignity of all people and where work remains to be done.

The 80th General Convention established the task force in 2022, charging it with conducting an audit of how The Episcopal Church has lived into its public commitments affirming the inclusion of LGBTQ+ people. A survey report will be shared with the 82nd General Convention in 2027.

Members across the church—those who are LGBTQ+ and those who are not—are encouraged to share about their experiences with pastoral care, sacramental access, representation in leadership, and institutional accountability. Learn more and [complete the survey](#), offered in English, French, and Spanish, by March 15.

Noisy Sunday - Absalom Jones Fund

What is the [Absalom Jones Fund](#)?

The Absalom Jones Fund for Episcopal HBCUs supports two institutions affiliated with The Episcopal Church since the 1800s: Saint Augustine's University in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Voorhees University in Denmark, South Carolina.



ABSALOM JONES FUND

In 1804, Absalom Jones became the first African American to be ordained a priest in The Episcopal Church. His witness to the way of Jesus included efforts to abolish slavery and to lift up all those cast down. He understood that education is the key to empowerment. We honor Absalom Jones by supporting our HBCUs, which prepare the talented leaders who will continue the work of building a more just and humane society.

All donations made during the Noisy Sunday collection this coming Sunday, February 15th will be sent to the Absalom Jones Fund.

Youth Ski Trip

GRACE & ST. STEPHEN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

YOUTH Ski trip

FEBRUARY 21, 6AM-7PM | SKI COOPER

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a fun-filled day on the slopes at Ski Cooper! Whether you're a seasoned skier, a snowboarder, or trying it for the first time, this trip is for you.

We'll cover cost of lift tickets and rentals, if needed, for all youth. We'll also provide food for all! Come make memories, laugh with friends, and experience the joy of winter in the Rockies.

RSVP & Questions:

Youth@GSSEpiscopal.org
Please RSVP by 2/13 so we
can arrange carpooling

Open to all 6-12
graders. You
don't need to
be involved in
Youth Group to
join us!



Please RSVP to [Denise Gustafson](#), Youth Group Co-Leader, by February 13th. Thank you!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**YOU'RE INVITED TO THE
SHROVE TUESDAY
Pancake
Supper**

**FEB. 17,
5:30-7 PM**



Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs and More! Join us in Parish Hall from 5:30-7 PM. Suggested donation is \$5/person or \$20/family. Fundraiser supports Youth Group activities!

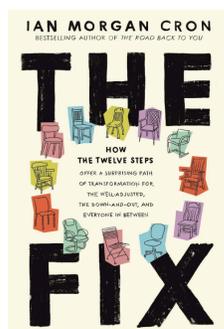
Grace & St Stephens Episcopal Church
601 N Tejon St
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
Questions? Contact Youth@GSSEpiscopal.org

Thank You from Ron & Sally Hopkins

We wish to express our gratitude for the generosity shown by parishioners in the collection of the Sexton's Purse this past fall. Your kindness, prayers, and support mean more to us than words can express, and we are deeply grateful to be part of such a caring community.



Wednesday Night Lenten Study



Please join us on Wednesday evenings in Lent: February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25, for faith, fellowship, and formation opportunities.

5:00pm - Eucharist in St. Stephen's Chapel
5:30pm- Dinner
6-7pm - Lenten Study

The study will be guided by 'The Fix' by Ian Morgan Cron. You are welcome to purchase and read the book, but it is not expected or required.

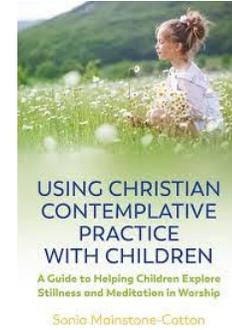
We all suffer from a sense of spiritual homelessness - a feeling that we're not fully at home in the world. To cope with our painful feelings and life traumas, we search for

quick "fixes" that eventually become habitual, self-destructive behaviors that ultimately create more problems than they solve. This book helps us work through the Twelve Steps of AA so that we can see ourselves, others, and the world in startlingly new way - and ultimately receive the freedom God has been waiting to give us all along. Even if you have no personal experience with addiction or a Twelve Step group, there is an abundance of wisdom and grace in these steps for us all.

Wednesday Night Children's Lenten Series

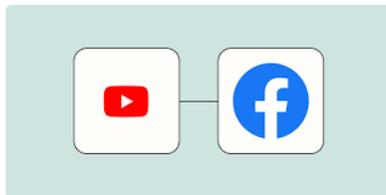
Children 1st-5th grade are invited to join us in the Children's Chapel, Wednesday evenings, 6-7 pm, during Lent: February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25. We'll discover ways to nurture our relationship with God through contemplative art, movement, meditation, and more. Parents are welcome to join.

Our time together will be guided by ideas from Using Christian Contemplative Practice with Children by Sonia Mainstone-Cotton: "Children will be children; they will sometimes be bouncy and curious and playful, but they can also appreciate and engage with calmness and quiet... So much of the work with children both in church and in education is often busy, loud, full and wordy... we need to relearn how to sit with silence, how to have a time of quiet and stillness and how to hear God in the stillness."



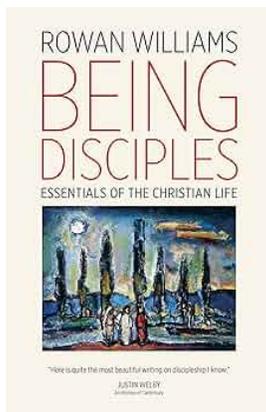
For more info, please contact [Sr. Marcella](#), Director of Children's Ministry

Livestream of Sunday Services & Special Events



Can't make it to church in person or want to revisit a meaningful moment? Sunday services and special events—like Taylor Concerts and other special liturgies—are available to watch anytime online. You can find videos on the [Grace and St. Stephen's YouTube channel](#), as well as on Facebook through the [Parish Happenings](#) group and the [Grace and St. Stephens's Facebook page](#). Whether you're traveling, homebound, or simply want to share with friends and family, these platforms make it easy to stay connected with the life and worship of our parish.

Graceful Conversations



Are you looking for a quiet time during which you can engage in matters close to your spiritual heart? Join us in Blaik Library as we read 'Being Disciples' by Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury. We'll be basing our conversations [not a class!] on this reading selection as we meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays at noon from February through May. Our bi-weekly discussion will be followed by the service of noonday prayer, which includes a period of silent meditation. For more info contact: [Marti O'Dell](#) or [Kim Millsap](#).

Schedule: Feb. 11, 25, Mar. 11, 25, Apr. 8, 22, May 13, 27

Prayer List



Those in crisis of health or circumstance: Conni Eggers, Eunice Ferguson, Annika Johnson, Sheliah Johnson, Br William Marion Page, Linda Stump, Kitty Taylor, Henry Velandia

Those who are celebrating joyfully: Joey and Katelyn Lackey, on the birth of their son, Milo

Those in need of ongoing prayer: The Rev. Canon Jon Anderson, Laura Bayless, Lee Ehrhart, Mary Ellis, John Hough, Maggi Johnson, Dorothy Kipp, Devon Mack, Luden McLord, John McVicker, Debra Millsap, Ed Quinn, Edie Reichert, John Simons, Jill Wasinger, Susan Willet, Calvin Wulf, Pete Zobenica, Alice, Ericka, Jennifer, Nancy, Oliver & Family, Wes

Those in harm's way: Mark Jaskot, Bill Mack, Rachel Pearson, Adam Tayhar, Nicholas Wolf

This Week's Happenings

Wednesday 2/11

- **Holy Eucharist**, 5pm, St. Stephen's Chapel
- **Communal Supper & Bible Study**, 5:30pm, Parish Hall
- **St. Nicholas Choir** (Music Theory, 5pm & Rehearsal, 6pm), Children's Music Room



Thursday 2/12

- **Morning Prayer**, 9am, on Facebook
- **Centering Prayer**, 10am, Weir Conference Room

Friday 2/13

- **Chanted Noonday Prayer**, 12pm, St. Stephen's Chapel

Sunday 2/15

- **Noisy Sunday Collection benefitting Absalom Jones Fund**
- **Rite I Eucharist**, 8am, Nave
- **Nursery Available**, 9am -12pm
- **Adult Formation: Black History Month: Telling Our Story**, 9:15am, Rm 211
- **Sunday School**, 10:15am, Lower Level
- **Rite II Choral Eucharist**, 10:30am, Nave
- **Youth Group**, 12pm, Youth Rm (2nd Floor)
- **Taylor Concert: Colorado Vocal Arts Ensemble**, 3pm, Nave

Monday 2/16

- **Noonday Prayer with the Anglican Rosary**, 12pm, St. Stephen's Chapel
- **Office Closed for President's Day**

Tuesday 2/17

- **Morning Prayer**, 9am, on Facebook
- **Women's Book Club**, 10am, Blaik Library
- **Docent Training Class**, 5pm, Zimmerman Rm
- **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**, 5:30pm, Parish Hall
- **Vestry Meeting**, 6pm, Weir Conference Rm

* February 18th: Ash Wednesday Eucharist at 7am, 12pm and 7pm*

Have Something to Share?

Grace Notes, our weekly parish newsletter, is one of the ways we stay connected, share stories, and celebrate the life of Grace & St. Stephen's—and we'd love your



help shaping it.

If you have something on your heart or a story you'd like to share, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Submissions of all kinds are welcome, whether polished or still taking shape. Please send your contributions to our [newsletter email](#) by 5pm on Tuesday for inclusion in the newsletter the following day. Thank you for being part of what makes this parish so vibrant and alive!

Ways to Give

Grace and St. Stephen's offers several easy ways to contribute.

- The ushers pass the plate at each service for your convenience.
- You can also donate on the website [here](#).
- **Text GSS to 73256**, followed by your gift amount, e.g. GSS 25 (e.g. to give \$25). You will receive a return link from the system. Follow the instructions from there.

Thank you for your financial support of Grace and St. Stephen's -- every gift makes it possible for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

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