



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

Grace Notes ~ May 13, 2026

Chris Fields, Sexton
Adult Formation
VBS Registration is Open
Jazz in the Garden
Pridefest 2026

Pomona College Glee Club Concert
Helen J Smith Scholarship
Community of Hope
Prayer List
This Week's Happenings

Welcome Chris Fields, Sexton



We are excited to announce the hire of Chris Fields as our new Sexton! Chris will be helping us care for our beautiful campus—ensuring that our buildings and grounds continue to be a welcoming and well-maintained space for worship, fellowship, and community life.

Please join us in welcoming Chris to the team and keep him in your prayers as he begins this new chapter in service with us!

Adult Formation

We have some thought provoking Adult Formation offerings coming up in the next few weeks!

Wednesday Nights, 6-7pm

- May 13 & 20: Exploring the Sunday Liturgy with Fr. Robert

Sunday Mornings, 9:15-10:15am

- May 17: Anglican Identity: Theological Foundations with Fr. Robert
- May 31: Community of Hope Presentation

Vacation Bible School Registration is Open!



Abundant Life Garden Project



Vacation Bible School



JUNE 22-26

9AM-12PM

K-5TH

**GRACE & ST. STEPHEN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



Children will explore what it means to have and to share the gift of abundant life through interactive scripture-based activities. We'll explore the importance of water, seeds, soil, animals, and harvest as it relates to creation care and our Christian faith.



Free to Register (Donations Welcome):
<https://www.gssepiscopal.org/give>



[Click here](#) to register.

Jazz in the Garden 2026

Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church is gearing up for another wonderful Jazz in the Garden season, and we could use a few helping hands to make it a success! Volunteers are needed for setup, greeting guests, serving drinks, and cleanup. Whether you can help for part of the event or the whole evening, your time and energy are greatly appreciated.



Jazz in the Garden is a joyful community gathering filled with music, fellowship, and summer atmosphere and it all comes together thanks to volunteers like you. If you'd like to lend a hand, please [sign up here](#).

Come help us make the garden swing!

Get Psyched & Sign Up for Pridefest 2026

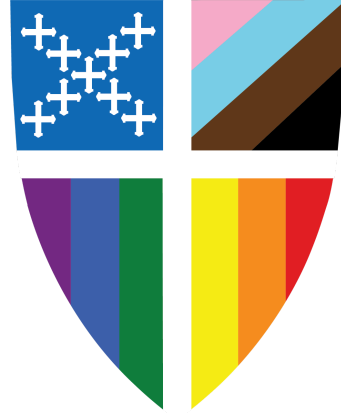
If you've been looking for a way to express empathy to our neighbors, this is a great opportunity!

- Sat., June 13 & Sun., June 14 10am-7pm
- Alamo Square Park around the Pioneer's Museum (park at the church & ride the ZEB, free bus to the site!)

Around 40,000 attendees are expected at Pikes Peak Pride 2026. With your help, Grace and St. Stephen's will be there once again to show our community and the world that all of God's children are welcome, especially when they are being told they are not.

Sign up now for Saturday or Sunday -- or both -- and join us, enjoy the festivities and help us make a real difference in our community!

For more information, please contact [Thom Andreas](#).



Pomona College Glee Club Concert



The celebrated Pomona College Glee Club, led by Donna M. Di Grazia, presents a rich tapestry of unaccompanied choral music on May 21, 8pm at Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. The program illuminates the work of Ethel Smyth, Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel, and Clara Schumann alongside several prominent women composers of today—

Caroline Shaw, Lucy Walker, and Reena Esmail—in addition to music by Arvo Pärt, John Tavener, and others. The concert is free and open to the public (no tickets required). For more information, visit pomona.edu/glee-tour.

Helen J. Smith Scholarship Grant

Helen J. Smith Scholarship Grants are available to students who are members in good standing at Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and who are enrolled or intend to enroll in a college, university, vocational school, or trade school. All funds will be paid directly to the institution of higher learning you plan to attend. Recipients will be notified by the middle of July; amounts may not be known until later. Priority will be given to students attending a school of divinity.



All application materials must be received by the Helen Smith Scholarship Grant Committee, Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, via email of SmithScholarship@GSSEpiscopal.org or hand-delivered to 601 North Tejon St., Colorado Springs, CO 80903 by **June 1, 2026**.

Please visit the [Grace & St. Stephen's website](#) for full application and details. Please note, students who have been recipients of this scholarship in the past that will be enrolled in an eligible program this coming fall are encouraged to apply again!

Questions may be directed to the Helen J. Smith Trust Scholarship Grant Committee at Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. You may call David Brockway, Committee Chairman, at (719) 963-0790 or email SmithScholarship@GSSEpiscopal.org.

Community of Hope

Marti O'Dell, Community of Hope member

You have, I hope, heard all about The Community of Hope, International (COHI) being a vowed order of persons striving to live into St Benedict's vision of what a monastic community should look like in the 6th century and doing this in the 21st century. And that really is what we try to do – to live with each other exhibiting Christ's love and companionship in each and every interaction we have with each other on a daily basis.



That's a scary, demanding goal – and, admittedly, one I have not been able to consistently live up to each and every day. But there are days when God blesses me with the opportunity to be Christ's listening presence to another. Take for example, the afternoon I had hurriedly done my grocery shopping at Safeway and was on my way back to my car. I passed an elderly gentleman holding a bouquet of the loveliest spring flowers. I smiled at him and commented, "How beautiful.", thinking to continue my journey to my car. Instead, I had to stop as he said, "Oh, yes. They are for my wife. It's her


birthday. We've been married 50+ years." The smile on his face told me how much he continued to love the woman in his life. I had to stop and listen as he shared with me his memories and his "today" joy. I said not another word for probably 5 minutes as I simply listened. As I listened, I settled more calmly into the rest of my day and realized how blessed I was to have "run into" this gentleman. He so blessed my life. This had been a truly COHI moment in my day.

I think that is what COHI interactions are all about – being Christ's listening presence for another as that "other", whoever s/he may be, shares with me what is most important to them at the time. Hopefully, I will become more attune to "listening moment" opportunities throughout my day.

Hopefully, I will continue to grow more fully into Benedict's vision of a community at peace with each other, offering Christ's love and presence to all on a daily basis.

Interested in learning more about COHI? Grab me some Sunday and I'll share more.

Prayer List



Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.
ROMANS 12:12

Those in crisis of health or circumstance: Stuart Eyman, Leigh MacHaffie, Al Larson, Sinnikka Pember-Coulter, KJ Ramsey, Anne Trinajstich

Those in need of ongoing prayer: The Rev. Canon Jon Anderson, Ted Arnn, Laura Bayless, Judy Couchman, Conni Eggers, Eunice Ferguson, Staci Fox, Barb Good, John Hough, Annika Johnson, Maggi Johnson, Sheilah Johnson, Dorothy Kipp, Devon Mack, John McVicker, Debra Millsap, Br. William Marion Page, Elizabeth Phillips, Ed Quinn, Edie Reichert, Kitty Taylor, Carol Townsley, Jill

Wasinger, Pam White, Susan Willet, Henry Velandia, Alice, Jennifer, Nancy, Nick H., Oliver & Family, Piper, Wes

This Week's Happenings

Wednesday 5/13

- **Holy Eucharist**, 5pm, St. Stephen's Chapel
- **St. Nicholas Choir**, 5pm, Taft Hall
- **Communal Supper**, 5:30pm, Parish Hall
- **Exploring the Sunday Liturgy w/Fr. Robert**, 6pm, Parish Hall
- **Men's Book Club**, 6pm, Weir Conference Rm

Thursday 5/14

- **Morning Prayer**, 9am, on Facebook
- **Centering Prayer**, 11am, Blaik Library
- **Ascension Day Evensong**, 7pm, Nave

Friday 5/15

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

Saturday 5/16

- **Men's Bible Study**, 8am, Weir Conference Rm

Sunday 5/17

- **Rite I Holy Eucharist**, 8am, Nave
- **Nursery Available**, 9am -12pm
- **Noisy Sunday Collection: Family Promise**, during both services
- **Anglican Identity: Theological Foundations w/Fr. Robert**, 9:15am, Rm 211
- **Sunday School**, 10:15am, Lower Level
- **Rite II Choral Eucharist**, 10:30am, Nave
- **Youth Group**, 12pm, Youth Rm

Monday 5/18

- **Noonday Prayer with the Anglican Rosary**, 12pm, St. Stephen's Chapel

Tuesday 5/19

- **Morning Prayer**, 9am, on Facebook
- **Women's Book Club**, 10am, Blaik Library
- **Vestry Meeting**, 6pm, Weir Conference Rm



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