



GRACE *and* ST. STEPHEN'S

✦ EPISCOPAL CHURCH ✦

Grace Notes ~ July 1, 2026

Hospitality Thank You
Community of Hope
Getting to Know
the Rev. Michael Fenn
VBS Thank You
Donations for Firefighters

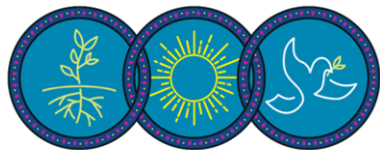
Women's Book Group
Men's Book Group
Free Books, Etc.
Ordination at GSS
Prayer List
This Week's Happenings

Thank you from Hospitality

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make the welcome reception for The Rev. Michael Fenn such a joyful celebration. Whether you donated refreshments, helped with setup or cleanup, or simply came to extend a warm welcome, your generosity and hospitality reflected the love of our parish community. Thank you for helping Deacon Michael feel so warmly embraced as he begins this new chapter with Grace and St. Stephen's.



Community of Hope



Community of Hope
INTERNATIONAL

Why I Love Being a Member of our Community of Hope International Group at Grace and St. Stephen's

I am not 100% sure when I joined our COHI group. I feel like 9 or 10 years ago is a good guess. Cindy Page approached me about joining. She is convincing so my journey in Benedictine Spirituality began. I took the 14 week course. I learned about St. Benedict and his Book of Rules. I learned about Balance in our lives,

Humility, and Hospitality. I learned to listen with the "Ear of my heart."

The Rev. Dr. Helen Appelberg, founder of COHI states, "It's about the skills and the practices of spiritual life that prepares each one of us to be open to the other...to believe and trust that the hospitality of the Christian faith is to look for the Christ in the other person, and as we approach them to serve them and in humility provide ministry to them. Our prayer is that the stranger will receive us and look for the Christ in us."

It's also about the beauty of belonging to a group that provides nurturing, connection, strength, and loving support. Our Circle of Care meets once a month. We share. We debrief. We plan. We are loved on. We eat! I have learned so much about myself and the others. I ponder my spiritual pathway. I find greater depth in my Formation. And I grow.

From the [COHI website](#):

Benedictine Spirituality gives Community of Hope its unique emphases:

- to stay true to Jesus' commandment to care for the sick..."When you do this to the least of these, you do it also unto me"

- growing each participant spiritually, within a nurturing community "because those who are the healthiest spiritually will have the most to give to others in need.

~Carol Hurst, COHI member at Grace and St. Stephen's

The next 12-week training begins August 15th. Please contact [Cindy Page](#) for more information.

Getting to Know the Rev. Michael Fenn

👋 Meet the Rev. Michael Fenn!

We're excited to welcome Deacon Michael as our new Assistant Rector at Grace and St. Stephen's! Over the next few weeks, we'll be sharing a series of articles to help you get to know him a little better—from his journey to ministry and his favorite hobbies to fun facts, meaningful memories, and what he's most looking forward to in this new chapter with our parish family.

Welcome, Deacon Michael—we're glad you're here! ✨



Family Traditions and Favorite Food

My whole life, my family always had a sizable vegetable garden that I helped with whenever I could. In Massachusetts, lots of different vegetables grow well: tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplants, zucchini. One of my favorite foods as a result of having so many fresh vegetables is my family's eggplant parmesan. Of course, made with eggplants and tomatoes fresh from the garden. It's a pretty labor intensive food, but very much worth the effort.

Thank You to Our VBS Volunteers!



Thank you to all the amazing volunteers who gave of their time, talents, and hearts during last week's VBS: Eleanor Black, Jan DeMolli, Dora Fife, Sloane Fife, Helen Hazelton, Antonia Hensel, Nicole Hensel, Leah Niedringhaus, Susan Paulson, Jean Qualtrough, Sawyer Radtke, Olivia Taylor, and Amy Welsh.

The children and the Grace community are incredibly blessed by you all!

Donations for Firefighters

COLORADO COMMUNITY DONATION DRIVE

for
ASPEN ACRES FIREFIGHTERS

HELP SUPPORT OUR BRAVE FIREFIGHTERS!



Aspen Acres Fire ~22,826 acres,
evacuations in Beulah, Rye &
surrounding areas.



Firefighters are working tirelessly
in tough conditions –
let's show our support!

DONATIONS NEEDED:



CASES OF
BOTTLED WATER



GATORADE /
ELECTROLYTE DRINKS



NEW SOCKS
(CREW/ATHLETIC)



DROP OFF DONATIONS:

Wednesday, July 1st
4:00 PM – 8:00 PM



601 N Tejon St,
Colorado Springs, CO 80903



Enter Alley from Monument St.
to the north,
exit Willamette Ave.
to the south.



Donations will be delivered
directly to firefighters.

Contact Event Organizer

Levon Stilson

(703) 587-9320 with any questions.

COLORADO STRONG – THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Drop Off of Donations:

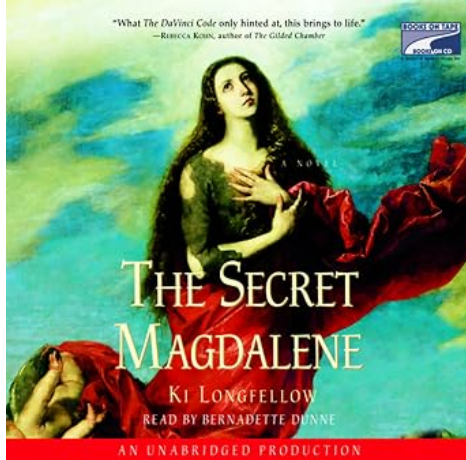
Wednesday, July 1st from 4-8pm in the church parking lot

Sunday, July 5th from 8am-12pm in Parish Hall (place items in or near the creche in the Outreach Corner)

Women's Book Group Summer Reading

Please join us in reading the biblical fiction book *The Secret Magdalene* by Ki Longfellow

This book will be discussed in its entirety on August 25th at 10am in Blake Library.



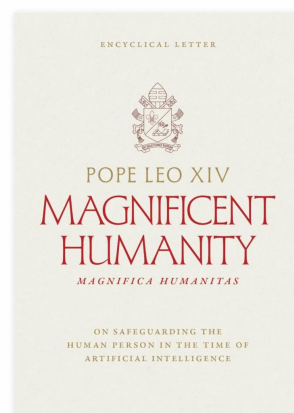
Ki Longfellow's "The Secret Magdalene" offers a mesmerizing account of Mariamne of Magdal Eder (known as Mary Magdalene) and her astonishing journey from ardent pupil to teacher and companion of the most famous man in history - Jesus of Nazareth. Much has been written about Mary Magdalene but Ms Longfellow's book is perhaps the most worthy addition to the fiction canon of her life, both in its breathtaking scope, meticulous research, and expert mixture of Gnostic philosophy with grand historical fiction. Framed as the narrative scrolls of Mariamne, she tells her story with wit, sensitivity and spirit, from her travels with her father's ward Salome into Alexandria,

where they absorb mysterious religious philosophies, to their return to Jerusalem and their life-altering relationships with Jesus and John the Baptist and Mariamne's emergence as a prophet in her own right. Eschewing the legend of redeemed prostitute and delving far beyond the traditional Biblical tale, Longfellow immerses us in the daily life, travails, and spiritual awakening of an intelligent woman and leader, whose mystic appeal continues to enthrall us centuries after her death.

Men's Book Group: How Should Christians Approach AI?

This summer, men's book club tackles how we as Christians should approach artificial intelligence (AI). We'll read and discuss critiques from leaders in different traditions, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, as well as arguments from pro-AI optimists. We'll then dedicate ourselves to reflecting upon Pope Leo's new encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas—a physical copy of which will be provided to all group members.

The group meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 6pm at Goat Patch Brewing, 2727 N Cascade Ave. Contact [Phil Hensel](#) for details.



Free Books & Children's Items This Sunday!



Stop by Parish Hall this Sunday to browse a selection of free books and children's items available for anyone to take home.

Whether you're looking for a new read, books for your family, or children's items that could be put to good use, we invite you to help yourself. Everything is available free of charge and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

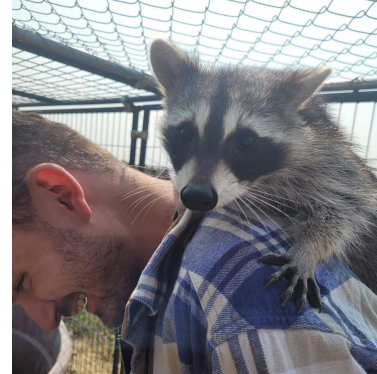
We hope these items find new homes where they can continue to be enjoyed!

Save the Date - Ordination of The Rev. Michael Fenn

Wednesday, July 15 at 5:30 pm

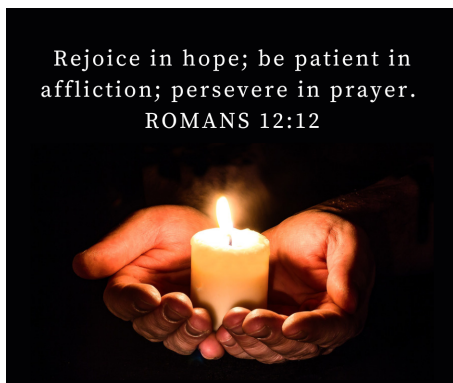
We are very excited to have the Rev. Michael Fenn starting as our Assistant Rector on Monday, June 22. He will be coming to us as a Deacon and will be ordained as a Priest by Bishop Kym Lucas at Grace and St. Stephen's on Wednesday, July 15 at 5:30pm with a reception to follow in the Parish Hall. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

The Episcopal Church (along with Orthodox churches and Roman Catholicism) follows the ancient pattern of the three-fold order for ordinations of deacon, priest, bishop. It is a treasured tradition that reminds the Church (and clergy) that all ordained ministry is rooted and grounded in service and proclaiming the Gospel.



Prayer List

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



Those in crisis of health or circumstance: Debbie Barents, Kristin Brown, David Buckley, Ed Quinn, Anne Trinajstich

Those who have died and those who grieve: Jane Nettleton

Those in need of ongoing prayer: Ted Arnn, Ted Arnn, Gail Ash, Laura Bayless, Sallie Beattie, Judy Couchman, Conni Eggers, Stuart Eymann, Eunice Ferguson, Staci Fox, Barb Good, John Hough, Annika Johnson, Maggi Johnson, Sheilah Johnson, Dorothy Kipp, Al Larson, Alex

Lindberg, Leigh MacHaffie, Devon Mack, John McVicker, Debra Millsap, Br. William Marion Page, Sinnikka Pember-Coulter, Elizabeth Phillips, KJ Ramsey, Edie Reichert, Frank Shelton, Kitty Taylor, Carol Townsley, Jill Wasinger, Pam White, Susan Willet, Alice, Jennifer, Nancy, Nick H., Oliver & Family, Piper, Wes

Those in harm's way: William Brown, Mark Jaskot, Frederick Jones, Bill Mack, Rachel Pearson, Adam Tahyar, Thomas Ward, Nicholas Wolf

This Week's Happenings

Wednesday 7/1

- **Holy Eucharist**, 5pm, St. Stephen's Chapel

Thursday 7/2

- **Morning Prayer**, 9am, on Facebook
- **Centering Prayer**, 11am, Blaik Library

Friday 7/3

- **Chanted Noonday Prayer**, 12pm, St. Stephen's Chapel
- **Office Closed: Independence Day Observed**

Sunday 7/5

- **Rite I Holy Eucharist**, 8am, Nave
- **Nursery Available**, 9am -12pm
- **Rite II Choral Eucharist**, 10:30am, Nave
- **Sandwich Sunday**, 12pm, Taft Hall

Monday 7/6

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



Tuesday 7/7

- **Morning Prayer**, 9am, on Facebook
- **Salsa Dancing with Lambarado**, 5:20pm, Parish Hall

Get the Information You Need

Select the emails you receive from Grace and St. Stephens. We send several emails a month and you can select the ones that hit your inbox by [updating your profile](#).

Remove your name from ALL emails sent from Grace and St. Stephens. If you [unsubscribe](#), you will not receive any emails from Grace and St. Stephens until you subscribe again.

[Update Your Profile](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

[WEBSITE](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

[CONCERTS](#)

[GIVE](#)

[CONNECT](#)



**Grace and St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church**
601 N. Tejon St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
(719) 328-1125

Connect With Us:



Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church | 601 N. Tejon Street | Colorado Springs, CO 80903 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!