

St. Stephen Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

2301 Union Avenue - Fairfield, CA 94533 - 707.425.2925 FAX 707.425.6268
www.ststephencmechurch.org / office@ststephencmechurch.org

Sunday, April 8, 2018 - 10:00AM



*“We are a people inspired by the Holy Spirit to:
Worship God, Witness to the world and Work with one another.”*

Rev. David C. Isom - Senior Pastor

The Right Rev. Bobby R. Best
Presiding Prelate - Ninth Episcopal District
Rev. T. J. Davis, Presiding Elder - Oakland District

Associate Ministers:

Rev. Edward B. Marks
Rev. Dr. Joseph Allen
Rev. Wanda Shannon
Rev. Dr. Antonia Jones

Exhorters:

Brother James Leonard
Brother Odell Toliver

The Worship Service

Prelude - Praise & Worship

The Call to Worship

L: Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: *for* praise is comely for the upright.

P: Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery *and* an instrument of ten strings.

L: Sing unto him a new song: play skillfully with a loud noise.

P: For the word of the LORD *is* right; and all his works *are done* in truth.

L: He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full *of* the goodness of the LORD.

P: By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.

L: He gathereth the waters of the sea together as a heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses.

P: Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

L: For he spake, and it was *done*; he commanded, and it stood fast.

ALL: Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD; *and* the people *whom* he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

The Worship Service

The Morning Hymn - #27 – Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

CHORUS: This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight! Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;

Angels descending bring from above Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

CHORUS

Perfect submission – all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;

Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

CHORUS

The Affirmation of Our Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ His only Son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; the third day he rose from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Celebration in Song

The Worship Service

The Responsive Reading #556 "The God Who Sustains "

Leader: Lord, how are they increased that trouble me! many are they that rise up against me.

People: Many there be which say of my soul, There is no help for him in God..

Leader: But Thou, O Lord, art a shield for me; my glory, and the lifter up of mine head.

People: I cried unto the Lord with my voice, and He heard me out of His holy hill.

Leader: I laid me down and slept; I awaked; for the Lord sustained me.

People: I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people, that have set themselves against me round about.

Leader: Arise, O Lord; save me, O my God:

People: Salvation belongeth unto the Lord: Thy blessing is upon Thy people.

Leader: Give ear to my words, O Lord; consider my meditation.

People: Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto Thee will I pray.

Leader: My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto Thee, and will look up.

People: For Thou art not a God that hath pleasure in wickedness: neither shall evil dwell with Thee.

Leader: As for me I will come into Thy house in the multitude of Thy mercy: and in Thy fear will I worship toward Thy holy temple.

All: For Thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favor wilt Thou compass him as with a shield.

The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, A-men, A-men

The Worship Service

**Celebration in Song
Greetings and Announcements**

The Ministry of Interpretive Dance
Melisha Perkins

Special Presentation- St. Jude Children's Hospital
Vallejo-Fairfield Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

The Ministry of Generous Giving / Altar Call & Prayer of Thanksgiving
St. Stephen CME Church Prayer Focus

Unity

Families

Finances

Commitment to Serving and Supporting Church Ministries

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebration in Song

The Preached Word

Rev. David C. Isom

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship & Church Membership

Doxology & Benediction

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye Heavenly Host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost - AMEN*

To Our Visitors - Thank you for taking the time to visit with us on this Sunday. If you are in the area at some future time, we pray that you will consider worshipping with us again. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to become a part of the St. Stephen CME Church family!
Please call 707.425.2925 for more information or visit us on the WWW and Facebook!

Announcement / Information

NOTICE: Additional announcements concerning various Community Events are posted on the bulletin boards in the foyer and in the Joseph B. Davis Fellowship Hall.

LOOKING AHEAD: April 10th, Tues. @6PM – Officers & Leaders Bible Study
April 18th, Wed. @1:30PM – Retirement Planning is Wealth Building
April 21st, Sat. @10AM – MTM
April 22nd, Sun. @10AM - Male Choir Annual Day
April 28th, Sat. @8AM - Oakland District Christian Education Conference

TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK: Raynard Green - 707.384.4161

EVANGELISM: —“ These words (i.e., *heathen* and *pagan*) are often used by Christians to describe people whom the Bible simply refers to as unbelievers (Luke 12:46; 1 Cor. 6:6). The way we speak about unbelievers influences our attitudes about them. If we perceive them as a savage enemy, we are less likely to feel compassion for them. If we view them as lost souls in need of rescue, we are more likely to help by sharing the message of the gospel with them.” -Evangelism Committee

BEREAVEMENT– Dear St. Stephen Family, The services for Brother Tommy Phillips are as follow: The Wake will be held on Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 4PM at Wilson & Kratzer Mortuaries , 455 24th St. Richmond, CA 94804. The Celebration of Life will be on Monday, April 16, 2018 at 11AM here at SSCMEC. Please continue to keep the family of Brother Tommy Phillips in your prayers.

With Heartfelt Appreciation. I thank my God every time I remember you. Philippians 1:3, Dear St. Stephen Church Family. Thank you so much for the uplifting phone calls, the wonderful inspiring cards, delicious food and above all your encouraging prayers. Words can not express my appreciation for your love and kindness. Our God is Amazing. Please continue to pray for me. Your kindness is so special. That’s why thoughts of you are filled with joy and gratitude. Thank You, Sister Joetta Burrell.

- ◆ **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such there is no law.” Galatians 5:22-23 (ESV)** Our next Officers and Leaders Bible Study on the Fruit of the Spirit will be held on Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 6 PM. All members of St. Stephen CME Church are encouraged to attend and you are welcomed to bring a guest.

Announcement / Information

- ◆ The Cub and Boy Scouts have started their annual sales fund raisers. Camp Cards are \$10.00 each and will be available for purchase in the church foyer each Sunday and daily through the end of May. Brother Roy Hollins.
- ◆ The 2018 Oakland District Christian Education Conference will take place on April 28th in Fairfield, CA at St. Stephen CME Church. In the spirit of equipping the saints and doing a new thing, the GODBCE has organized the event. This year we will have a youth knowledge bowl! And a guest workshop presenter to discuss Caring for Your Ministry Volunteers. God Bless, **Ashley Holland**, Director- BCE, Oakland District.
- ◆ On April 8, 2018, St. Stephen CME Church will be celebrating with the Phillips Temple CME Church, 3332 Adeline Street, Berkeley, CA 94703, *Rev. George Dix, Pastor*, for their 109th Church Anniversary. Services are at 3:00PM, Dinner will be served between 1PM-3PM.
- ◆ The Adult Ministry invites you to attend a financial presentation "Retirement Planning is Wealth Building" on Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in the Joseph B. Davis Fellowship Hall. Presenter is Stephan Betz, Ph.D., CCAP, an independent broker with Walnut Creek Consulting. Learn strategies for preserving your retirement income and build wealth for the future. Free admission and refreshments. Please RSVP to Rose Mary Lewis or Kay Young by April 16, 2018.
- ◆ The Feed My Sheep Ministry is in dire need of trucks to help in the food distribution pickup from the Solano Food Bank to the church. Please contact Sister Vivian Martin at [707-429-9777](tel:707-429-9777) or email the Church Office - Office@StStephenCMEChurch.org
- ◆ **Sunday School**- Please join us for a continental Breakfast 7:30AM-8:30AM. Sunday School Begins at 8:45AM in the Joseph B. David Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ The Lay Ministry has setup a Suggestion Box in the Lobby for your input concerning improving the ministries in the church.
- ◆ The SSCMEC Scholarship application period is open for high school seniors who are members of our church. Applications are available on the table in the church foyer. Submit the completed application packet and a graduation picture no later than 5PM on May 31, 2018.
- ◆ The Northern California MTM Ministry is having a drawing for a 50" HD Flat Screen TV. Drawing to generate revenue for our programs including assisting our youth with being able to attend our Annual MTM Retreat in Fresno. \$20.00 for a book of 5 tickets, \$5.00 per ticket. Drawing August 8, 2018. Contact Brother Kenneth Lewis Sr., for more information.