



St. Stephen's Memorial Episcopal Church

Lynn, MA

2019 Parish Profile



St. Stephen's Welcome

St. Stephen's welcomes all people as beloved children of God

Whether you come to church once in a while, or you come every Sunday, at St. Stephen's

you are welcome.

If you are wealthy or you don't have one red cent

you are welcome.

If you are able-bodied or you need a little help getting up the stairs

you are welcome.

If you were just born or have been in the church for one hundred years

you are welcome.

If you love to argue or just want to go along with the flow

you are welcome.

If you like to find your own path or choose to take a well-worn path

you are welcome.

If your life is filled with joy or you need a sacred healing

you are welcome.

If you are LGBTQ+ and saw our little rainbow house, came and stayed for worship,

at Stephen's truly we mean it when we say,

All are welcome here!

Our Mission Statement

St. Stephen's is an open and affirming Christian church worshipping in the Anglican tradition. Crossing lines of color, class, culture, and generation, we seek transformation of our lives and our community through Christ's Gospel of love, compassion and justice.

Diocesan Mission Statement

We, the people of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, are living members of the body of Jesus Christ. As Jesus gathered his disciples, took bread and blessed it, and then offered his body for us in order to bring reconciliation, forgiveness and healing, so may we offer ourselves in Christ's name.

Embracing brave change . . . Reimagining our congregations . . . Building our relationships . . . Engaging our world



Who We Are

On any given Sunday, one can walk into our historic stone church and be greeted by a friendly member of our diverse group of churchgoers. One youth said of St. Stephen's "People at the church I've known my whole life are so welcoming and loving to others. They display God on earth. They motivate me to continue my faith." Our congregation includes Episcopalians, Catholics, Buddhists, Baptists, and those who just believe in something greater than themselves.

We come from Lynn and surrounding cities and towns. We value our urban community as a place to really engage all of God's people. High church, low church or broad church, the St. Stephen's worship experience embraces us all.

We are faithful stewards of our building, built by Enoch Mudge to memorialize his children, Lt. Col. Charles Mudge, killed at the battle of Gettysburg and Fannie Olive Mudge Van Brunt. We are grateful for our lovely sanctuary and magnificent Tiffany windows and are committed to continuing its restoration.

We come together in joy, hope and love. We come as one people, worshipping one God. St. Stephen's is also home for a Kenyan congregation. Our teens gather to share their hopes, prayers and concerns about what confronts them in their daily lives and to discover how God figures into it all. Many of us were brought as children to St. Stephen's to be baptized and confirmed. One parishioner comes to St. Stephen's to honor her mother's legacy with a college scholarship. A new parishioner

describes a still, clear voice of the Holy Spirit guiding her through the big red doors of the church, to serve in any way she can.

Social justice is always in our hearts and on our minds. We value preaching openly about race, privilege, social and political woes. When there is a crisis in the community, St. Stephen's steps up. After a gang shooting a few years ago, St. Stephen's opened its doors to hold all on all sides of the conflict in acceptance and compassion, extending a complex, gentle love to all.

The children in our St. Stephen's community are our present and future. We want to engage with the congregation's children. Also, we successfully provide vibrant summer and afterschool programs for neighborhood children. We are determined to sustain our outreach to all our children.

Our leaders provide skill and whole-hearted love for the well-being of our entire church family, but they worry we are "spread too thin." Yet, time and again, the lay leadership says, "Yes, send me" as they willingly step up to fill in where needed. Resilience runs deep in our veins as we double down and carry on.

As a place of healing, we worship with our infirmities and comfort each other in our needs. St. Stephen's is tough and determined, soft and tender. Graciousness runs deep. At St. Stephen's we remain determined to be the "eyes, ears, hands and feet of Jesus Christ in the world."



Worship

St. Stephen's is a diverse, dedicated group of parishioners faithfully worshipping and sharing the Eucharist with one another using Rite II liturgies in the *Book of Common Prayer* as well as *Enriching our Worship* and other Anglican liturgies. The pulpit is often shared with guest preachers, allowing different voices to be heard on a regular basis. Our community comes from many places and traditions such as Liberia, the Caribbean, Black Gospel, Evangelical, high, low and broad church.

The Sunday 8:00 am Service has a devoted group of eight to 16 people attending, using the same liturgy as the 10:00 am service. Those who attend say they have made good friends in this wonderful little community full of love and acceptance.



The Sunday 10:00 am Service is lively, with the choir and organist, and full procession. We use songs from *The Hymnal 1982* as well as the *Wonder, Love & Praise* and *Lift Every Voice and Sing* hymnals. The Peace at St. Stephen's is legendary in its length and in the love that is shared among everyone in the pews. Our tradition is to gather the children in attendance to joyously shout the "Alleluias" concluding the service.

Children and Youth Activities: Our nursery provides infant and toddler care during the 10:00 am service. The Sunday school uses *Weaving God's Promises*, a three-year Episcopal curriculum for pre-school to fifth grade classes. *Teen Text* is used for middle school and high school classes. For the first time in institutional memory, there are no children attending the Sunday School. We hope to reinvigorate Sunday School in the fall.

The St. Stephen's Kenyan 11:00 am Service: There is a vibrant Kenyan community worshipping in Lawrence Hall, on the second floor of the Parish House. The Rev. Joseph Ngotho, an Anglican priest licensed to officiate in the diocese, has been leading this congregation since 2004. He

has recently been joined by the Rev. Zachary Njogu Kinyua, a missionary from Kenya. Rev. Zach has enlivened the very robust music program,



which he shares with both congregations. While the two congregations worship separately, they cooperate on budget planning, youth ministry and occasional joint worship services. We are working toward expanding interaction between the congregations.

Thursday Noontime Healing Service: This intimate service is held in the chapel. It tends to be an informal service with discussion and sharing of our spiritual lives and our physical struggles. It includes anointing, laying on of hands for healing and the Eucharist. A small consistent group warmly welcomes any and all who come in need of comfort and healing.

Monthly Eucharist at St. Stephen's Tower: On the third Tuesday of the month at 2:30 pm, a group of parishioners and residents share in a service led by our priest in the St. Stephen's Tower community room.

Special Worship Traditions are Homecoming, Children's Sabbath, Blue Christmas, Martin Luther King Sunday, Creation Care Sunday and

Memorial Day. We will be celebrating the 175th anniversary of the gathering of our congregation in September 2019.

Bible Study: Wednesday Bible Study gathers weekly with clergy to read and discuss scripture. This year the group finished Genesis through Judges, read Tobit, portions of the Psalms and currently re-reading the Gospel of Luke.

Pastoral Care Ministry: The Pastoral Care Team visits homebound parishioners. Going out in pairs, they offer fellowship and Communion to parishioners in homes, nursing homes and hospitals. The team and clergy meet monthly for check-ins and training.

Lay Leaders: The church is blessed to have many lay leaders assisting during services, including readers, ushers, altar guild members, acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, sub-deacons and the healing prayer team offering special prayers to individual parishioners during Communion at the 10:00 am Sunday service.

With the loss of our full-time Urban Assistant and part-time intern, even more lay people have stepped up to lead many groups and ministries, such as the Beloved Community Team, Sunday School and Women's Group.



A History of Leading the Charge



St. Stephen's has led the charge in the areas of social, racial and economic justice, as well as fighting hunger and homelessness.

Though there were Black families attending St. Stephen's prior to WWII, more Black families joined St. Stephen's after the Rev. Robert Anderson and the Rev. Edgar Romig led parishioners to go door-to-door in surrounding neighborhoods to introduce themselves and invite people to attend St. Stephen's. Many of these neighbors, and new parishioners, were African American or African Caribbean.

In the late 1960s, demographics and economics in Lynn started to shift. Two major employers, the shoe factories and General Electric, became less viable sources of employment. The shoe factories suffered a

devastating fire and those jobs were permanently lost. GE's Aircraft Engines headquarters moved from Lynn to Evendale, Ohio and the Lynn plant reduced its workforce. Many established families moved out of Lynn into neighboring suburbs, or out of state. Lack of affordable housing, homelessness and hunger all became very visible issues in the city, and new priorities for St. Stephen's ministries.

In 1970, St. Stephen's parish, under the leadership of the Rev. James Gambrell, built St. Stephen's Tower, a 10-story, 130-unit affordable apartment building for seniors, one block from the church. The Tower was completely renovated and upgraded in 2015.

Under the tenure of, the Rev. Dr. William Lawson, St. Stephen's defied city ordinances by setting up a homeless shelter for men in the church's dining room for several days until the city agreed to establish an official homeless shelter.

St. Stephen's was a leading parish in the creation of My Brother's Table, a soup kitchen for hungry families and individuals established in 1982. While, unfortunately, the need for My Brother's Table continues, it has grown into a stable and well-respected agency serving people experiencing homelessness and other troubles.

In addition, St. Stephen's created a food pantry which continues to this day giving out bags of food to individuals and families.

With the leadership of Rev. Dr. Lawson, the Rev. Jerry Hardy and the Rev. Jane Gould, St. Stephen's increased its image as a champion for social justice.

During the 1980s, tension between Lynn city government and Lynn residents prompted the need to organize residents to address the need for additional city services. St. Stephen's became a founding partner of the Lynn Organizing Project, which evolved into the Essex County Community Organization (ECCO), affiliated with the national Faith in

Action network (formerly PICO, Pacific Institute for Community Organizing).

During the 1990s, St. Stephen's relationship with ECCO became solidified with local actions. St. Stephen's relationship with ECCO continues as parishioners participate in local movements fighting for immigrant rights, criminal justice reform and economic justice, through



legislative advocacy. St. Stephen's relationship with ECCO deepened further during the tenure of Rev. Jane Gould, who became a champion on the local and national level for the causes of ECCO. Whether it be community policing, or raising the minimum wage, St. Stephen's has worked hand in hand with ECCO to improve the quality of life in Lynn and in Massachusetts.

In 2000, Rev. Gould arrived to find a mistrustful congregation. Prior to her arrival, the parish experienced some difficult events; the sudden

departure of the previous rector, abuses of power - both sexual and financial, and the death of a beloved associate rector. Together, she and the congregation created a resilient community of healing, working through these losses with a strength of collective heart and soul, and God's loving, bountiful grace.

From 2000 through 2017, Rev. Gould and St. Stephen's developed a closer relationship with the diocese. The Urban Resident Program was created due to a shortage of well-trained clergy with urban experience. This program provided the diocese with a much-needed training location for newly ordained transitional deacons and priests, while providing our parish and rector with much needed clergy assistance. Additionally, many grants were written to raise much needed funding for parish programs.

Five years ago, St. Stephen's decided to focus on racial inequity and the Beloved Community Team (BCT) was formed. BCT believes we are all beloved of God and that it is God's desire that we exist in relationship with each other. BCT's core principal is the dismantling of racism and white supremacy. St. Stephen's is a place where you can have deep conversations about race and privilege. This lay-led team meets once a month to look deeply into ourselves, our families, and our communities to determine how racism is being manifest. St. Andrew's, a predominantly white Episcopal church in nearby Marblehead, joined the group and together we explore privilege, white fragility, and whiteness. We recognize the persistent insidiousness of racism. At St. Stephen's, we will boldly fight until racism is eliminated and God's Beloved Community exists on this earth.

Outreach

Food Pantry: St. Stephen's food pantry began about 40 years ago. It is the only pantry in Lynn open multiple times every month. We are a member of the Greater Boston Food Bank and receive donations from other churches and organizations. In 2018, we distributed 37.6 tons of food to 2,464 households including 1,763 adults, 2,455 children and 956 seniors. We are staffed with volunteers from St. Stephen's and the community. Gently used clothes donated by the community are available free of charge. During the food pantry, people can poke through the Clothes Closet and there are many free books available as well.

Christmas Presents Project for Kids (CPPK): CPPK provides over 150 bags of Christmas gifts to the children of families in the diverse, economically challenged neighborhoods surrounding the church. Many



volunteers contribute to the success of this program, including an annual spaghetti supper and other fundraising efforts. Our OASIS youth group helps with all phases of the project and spends an entire Saturday purchasing and wrapping the gifts for each child. In addition to the Christmas gifts, there is a large selection of new books for children to choose from.

12 Step Programs: St. Stephen's is committed to helping those in the community maintain their sobriety. We provide low-cost space to two meetings – well-established AA and NA recovery groups.

Episcopal Relief and Development: Each year, after Easter, our dear stuffed donkey friend, Esmerelda, visits. She moves down the aisle, speaking to the congregation, encouraging all to give, as she collects Lenten mite boxes and quarter cards for ERD.

Women's Group: The Women's Group started in 2015 to meet the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of the women of St. Stephen's. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Marblehead joined the group soon after. Diverse in age, class, economic, occupational and ethnic background, this is an eclectic group of women who bring a wealth of knowledge to one another. The group meets on the second Sunday of every month for lively discussions on a wide variety of topics such as social justice, health care and meditation. Most importantly, they share stories of growing in faith, a love of Christ and appreciation for the Episcopal Church while enjoying a delicious and nutritious pot-luck lunch. With the departure of our rector, the group has successfully transitioned from clergy-led to lay-led to sharing leadership on a rotating basis.

Youth Activities

OASIS: St. Stephen's high school students gather twice a month for programs facilitated by themselves, our youth minister and adult parishioners. OASIS also reaches out to all youth in Lynn to create a welcoming space for them to explore their relationship with faith and talk about God on their own terms. Recently, OASIS began including middle school teens, creating a richer collection of perspectives on life and opportunities for mentoring youth. For many of our teens, St. Stephen's is



a safe sanctuary in a city challenged by violence, poverty, homelessness, and drug abuse. OASIS also works with The Beloved Community Team for cross-generational exchanges. Through the efforts of the youth minister, lay leaders, and youth

members, OASIS provides structure, love, and support so that teens can release stress and feel safe to truly be themselves.

OASIS has had to meet several challenges. The rector, assistant rector, and intern, all who were very involved with OASIS, have departed. We struggle to get youth from the congregation to participate. Despite these challenges the youth and youth minister have carried on, meeting regularly, dedicated and determined to be the vital, energetic group they have always been.

Lynn Youth Pride Celebration: In 2016, St. Stephen's high schoolers hosted the first annual LGBTQ+ Pride Celebration in Lynn. Held on our front lawn, this well-attended event is planned entirely by LGBTQ+ youth and their allies and features rainbow crafts, music and poetry

performances, popcorn, hotdogs, candy, and fun LGBTQ+ swag. For many LGBTQ+ youth and allies, this is their first experience of Church as an affirming community.

Scholarships: Thanks to the generosity of current and former St. Stephen's parishioners, scholarships for higher education are available to St. Stephen's members.

Diocesan Youth Council: Two St. Stephen's youth and two adults sit on this council which plans and leads the middle school, high school, and pre-confirmation Diocesan retreats. The council attends the Diocesan Convention and assists the Diocesan Office of Youth Ministries in one-day events.

Episcopal Youth Leadership Academy: Our youth attend Diocesan-wide weekend retreats at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center to share their experiences with other youth and to expand their leadership skills.

Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center: In addition to hosting leadership retreats, BCH runs a summer camp with one or two week sessions costing \$600 per week. BCH offers partial camp scholarships and St. Stephen's also subsidizes camp tuition for many campers. Last year, 18 St. Stephen's campers attended BCH summer camp.



Children's Activities

Kids in Community (KIC): Created in 2003, KIC is a sanctuary for children in the St. Stephen's neighborhood coping with all the challenges of an urban setting. KIC Summer Camp and KIC Music and Arts Program (MAP) have an advisory board of parishioners and community members. The KIC board is working to license and incorporate KIC as a non-profit in order to create a sustainable structure and facilitate fundraising.

KIC Summer Camp: KIC is a free month-long day-camp that began as an arts alternative program for 25 kids, and now provides games, reading, science, and the arts for over 100 kids. It also provides first jobs for many high school camp mentors. Many of our mentors were once KIC kids themselves. Area churches supply snacks. Breakfast and lunch are

provided by the Lynn Public School Department through the federal free lunch program.

Music and Art Program: Inspired by the summer camp, this free after school program offers drumming, piano, poetry, yoga, drawing and academic enrichment to 40 children four days a week.

Summer Learning (SL): This program runs in tandem with KIC Summer Camp. St. Stephen's created SL when Massachusetts cut funding for summer enrichment education. Serving children from Lynn elementary schools, the program helps them maintain and strengthen skills in math, reading, and writing.



Where We Want to Go

As St. Stephen's moves into a new phase of our life as a parish community, parishioners are committed to finding a balance in our priorities between nurturing our own parish community and serving others in Lynn.

Parishioners want St. Stephen's to be a place where both young and old feel welcome and have their spiritual development, religious life and beliefs embraced. We want to actively reach out to bring in new members while we work to retain those who are already members. St. Stephen's fosters rich relationships across generations. Although our congregation is aging, we have a small but steady stream of younger members and young families. We recognize the need to develop a congregational culture that respects the traditional way of worship, yet creates new ways of worship that attracts young adults and families with children as they are drawn nearer to the heart of God. This new culture will pay attention to the religious education of all ages, in particular, those who participate in our Sunday School and to the elderly.

Our commitment in time, spirit, and treasure to the children who are currently participating in our after school and summer programs is strong. The geographical area, like many urban areas, has its share of violence, gentrification, and oppression. We will continue to be a sanctuary for children in the community. Parishioners also expressed concern for the children and youth that used to go to church but are no longer present in worship services. It is our hope to begin a creative, dynamic process that results into a meaningful worship experience for them.

The actual buildings we inhabit and the grounds on which they stand are sacred to us. Caring for both is an act of worship. Thus, we will continue to be good stewards and work to provide the necessary funding toward maintaining our buildings.

The Rainbow House, that stands on our front lawn, was created by our youth to symbolize our commitment to be a place where homelessness would not be tolerated and LGBTQ+ individuals are met with acceptance and love. We stand behind the symbolism and the actual radical hospitality this house represents.



The St. Stephen's parish community is warm and loving with strong lay leadership. Some lay leaders are looking for younger members to take the lead while some younger members do not feel there is room for them in leadership. We are ready to strengthen relationships as we seek to develop our leadership structures. Strong female leadership in clergy and laity has been a point of pride for St. Stephen's. We want women to continue to feel that their ways and mores will be nurtured and welcomed.

We have been a beacon of social justice for decades. We will continue to commit ourselves to live out the words and deeds exemplified by the devotion of Christ, to those suffering oppression, as well as living into our baptismal covenant.

What We Seek in a New Rector

We are looking for a rector who is grounded in prayer and spiritual practices. A good candidate will lead the congregation in deep meaningful worship, be compassionate, understanding, enthusiastic, caring, humble and a good listener. We seek someone who is nurtured in the Anglican/Episcopal traditions, yet has the expansiveness to embrace different ways of going through the world.

Parishioners express a strong desire for our new rector to balance between ministries focused on the congregation and ministries focused on people in the broader community.

St. Stephen's has a strong leadership and we seek a rector who will partner with us. A good candidate will have effective staff management skills, financial and fundraising experience. We are especially seeking someone with creative financial skill that includes seeking grants.

During the summer months, and in the afternoons during the school year, St. Stephen's is full of children and youth. They are inside our doors and all around in the neighborhood trying to navigate life at home, school and in their communities, in an often hostile world. We desire a rector who is a balm to our children and youth, who is comfortable listening to their joy, pain, and curiosity of spirit. Many are from families of color and need a rector who is creative, brave, and skillful at engaging with cultural differences. Our rector, we hope, will walk with us and our children and youth, making sure the world will allow them to be themselves and inspiring them to be the best that they can be.

St. Stephen's has repeatedly shown an ability to directly face social issues of racism, poverty, LGBTQ+, and other types of oppression. To confront a system that deploys its entitlements and powers with crushing force takes considerable spiritual fortitude. We have an overwhelming desire for a rector who preaches on subjects that affect people's everyday lives.

At St. Stephen's, all are welcomed with love, so a new rector would need to believe and live those gospel values.



We are looking for a rector to help us, as a congregation, discern our vision for the future. We seek a wise and faithful shepherd that counsels us about our personal and moral problems and major life decisions, guides us when we have gone astray, and inspires each of us to love God with all our hearts, acts and soul. At St. Stephen's we find a way, when all seems lost. We will rejoice and laugh with you. We will hold you in your sorrow. We have great faith that the Holy Spirit will guide and protect us all.

Our Place to Give

God has blessed us with abundance and our lives are enriched when we pay it forward.

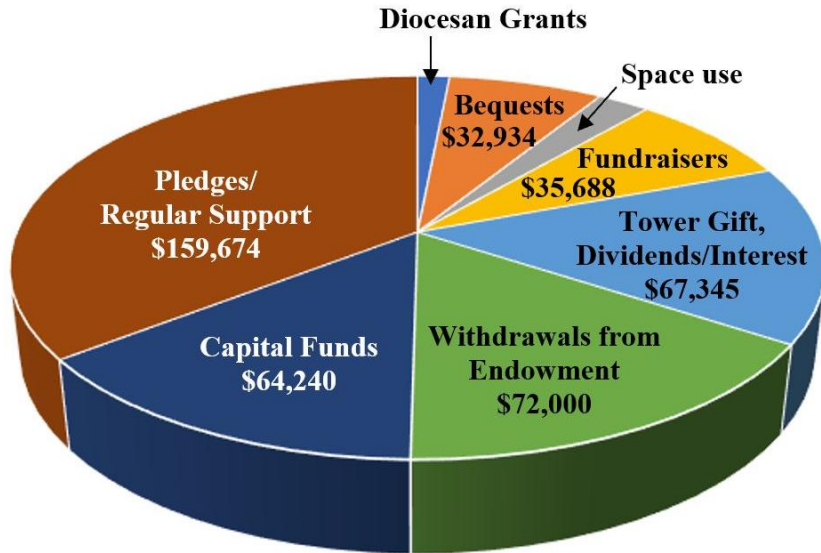
During the new rector search process, the budget has carefully planned income and expenses in order to continue the programming that St. Stephen's provides for our parishioners and our community in Lynn. Work for the Vestry and Finance Committee, in the upcoming year, will focus on long-range planning around restoration, paying off the loan from Eastern Bank, and the financial stability of the parish.

We have been working closely with the Diocese as they review our finances. Several recommendations have been made, three of which we have incorporated; we have established the appropriate contingency operating fund levels, our endowment is now managed by a single

investment group and we have adopted a growth and income objective for the endowment at the level recommended by the Trustees of Donations. We look to the Vestry and Finance Committee to advance the recommendations of the diocese for issues pertaining to loan elimination and investment objectives and deficit reduction.

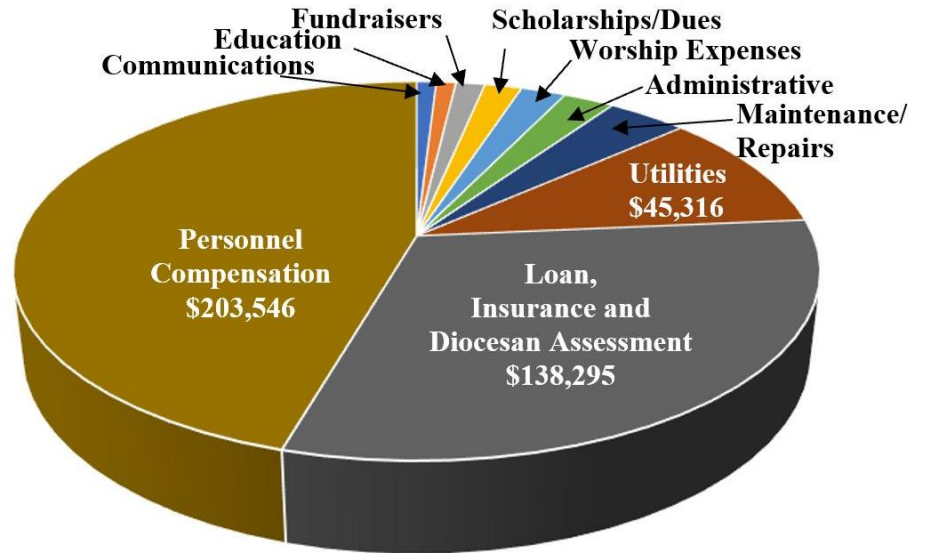
St. Stephen's has an endowment of \$1.2 million. \$389,956 of these funds are restricted and the rest are unrestricted. However, about one-third of the endowment is held as collateral for the loan we have at Eastern Bank which has a current balance of about \$410,000. The endowment has been used to provide a steady annual income and is also used, at times, as a buffer against deficit budgets.

2018 Operating Income



2018 Total Operating Income \$449,846

2018 Operating Expenses



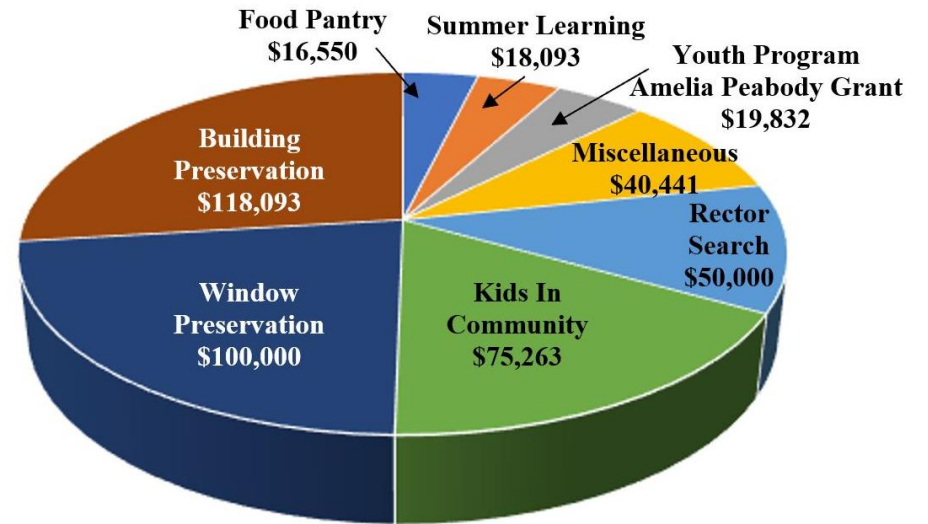
2018 Total Operating Expenses \$447,397

Grant funding continues to support many of our programs, and with our new financial reporting structure, it is easier to see the many streams of income coming into our parish and how this money is spent. Grants are considered restricted funds and must be tracked separately from the operating budget.

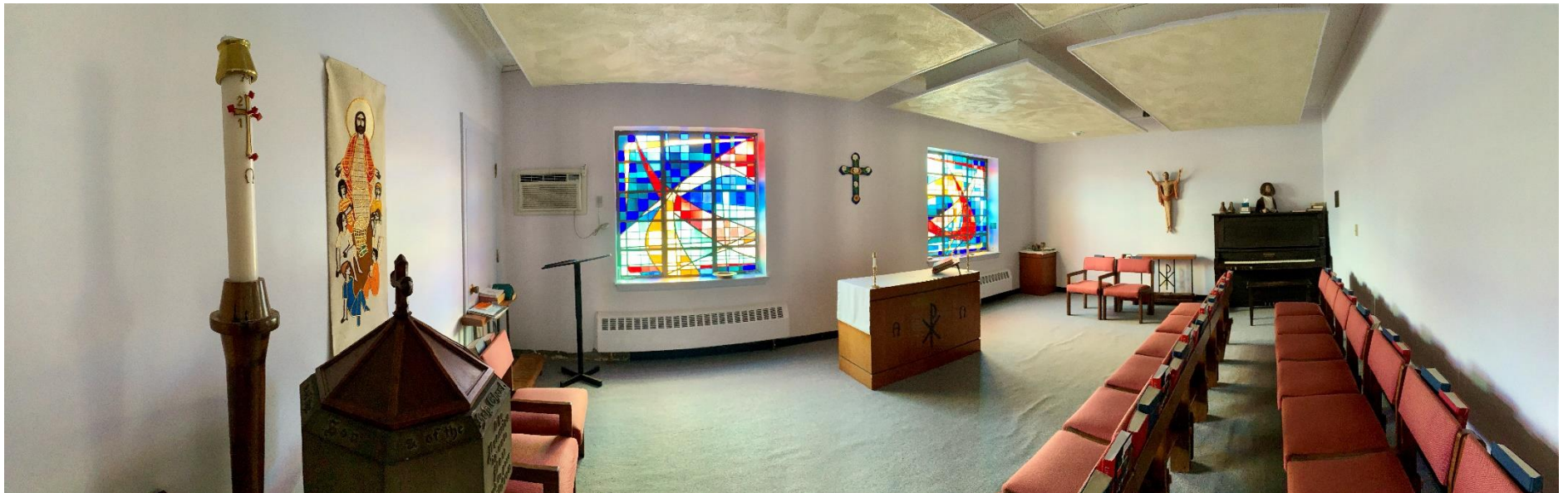
Major programs funded by grants are listed in this pie chart. Fifteen smaller programs are listed under “miscellaneous.” These programs are listed elsewhere in the Parish Profile, and in greater detail in the annual report.

For more detailed financial information about St. Stephen’s Church, see our [annual report](#).

2018 Grant/Program Income (non-operating)



2018 Total Grant/Program Funding \$438,675



Building and Grounds

[The Church that Mudge Built](#). During the 1840s, Enoch Redington Mudge established a summer home in Lynn. Grieving the loss of his daughter Fannie Olive and son, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Redington Mudge, who died in the battle of Gettysburg, he built St. Stephen's Church as a memorial. Breaking ground in 1880, the cornerstone was laid in May 1881. Louis C. Tiffany and Associated Artists crafted 114 breathtaking stained glass and decorative leaded glass windows, which are possibly the oldest ecclesiastical [Tiffany windows](#) in the world.

By the early 1920's, St. Stephen's built a parish house through a redesign of the chapel. The chapel roof was raised creating a large hall and stage later named Lawrence Hall. Below the old chapel, the basement was excavated to make a banquet hall and kitchen.

In 1957, the church completed a second expansion, an educational wing with a large kitchen and dining room.

St. Stephen's is listed as a national historic site. There is also a preservation restriction, in perpetuity, attached to the deed of the property, due to the parish receiving public money for historic preservation. All exterior restoration/preservation projects must follow and adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Secretary of the U.S. Dept. of the Interior. The first major restoration project of the apse wall and clerestory dormers was completed in 2013 for approximately \$600,000. The entire east end of the church was repointed and new copper flashing and counter-flashing was installed. The Massachusetts Historic Society contributed \$60,000. The parish took out a construction loan from Eastern Bank to pay the up-front costs. The diocesan "Together Now" campaign and other sources of revenue; pledges, bequests and an anonymous donation, combined to cover the costs. The second major restoration project was the east cloister, sacristy, bell-cote and south wall. This project was completed in 2016 at a cost of \$415,830 of which the Massachusetts Historic Commission



contributed \$72,000, the diocese \$100,000, a bequest \$100,000 and the remaining balance came through restructuring the existing loan with Eastern Bank. Other capital improvements include the restoration of many of our priceless Tiffany windows, making the church handicap accessible and a complete redesign of the heating system. Future preservation work that will need capital resources include work on the north transept wall and the ascension window, the bell tower, the west wall, the parish house, interior work and several stained-glass windows.

Where We Live

Lynn is located on the shore of Massachusetts Bay, nine miles north of Boston. Lynn has an abundance of natural resources. Lynn Shore Drive is a great spot to walk and enjoy King's Beach and Red Rock Park. The [Friends of Lynn and Nahant Beach](#) host free concerts and events during the summer months. [Lynn Woods Reservation](#) is the largest municipal park in the US.

Lynn was settled in 1629 by colonists from the New England Company in Salem, MA. Though the early settlers relied primarily on farming and shell fishing, they built an iron works in 1643. In 1775, leather tanning became a major industry, and when the Eastern Railroad was extended from Boston through Lynn to Salem the shoemaking industry was born. Shoemaking would become a major source of jobs for many years.

You can find more information on St. Stephen's and the city of Lynn in the [Lynn Executive Insite Report](#).

For more information and history on the city of Lynn, visit the [website](#).



St. Stephen's is a Place to Pray

Prayer is central to who we are. The challenges of life are too great for us to manage alone and we take them to God in prayer.

Closing Prayer

O God, you have given us this gift of a church with a diverse and spiritual community. Give us the vision to see beyond what we want as individuals and help us to embrace your vision of our church as we move forward becoming a loving, sharing and inclusive community.

Help us to grow our congregation and our faith. Be with us as we continue the fight for justice and equality for all.

We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Contact Information

This is who we are – we invite you to join us in determining who we will become and where the Holy Spirit might guide us all.

The closing date to submit applications is September 15, 2019.

We welcome interested candidates. Please submit a cover letter, resume, a PDF of your Office of Transitional Memory profile and, if you have it, links to recent sermons and any other material that would help us to learn about you to:

Email “Attention to the Search Committee:” ststephenssearchcomm@gmail.com

Or mail to:

The Search Committee
St. Stephen’s Memorial Episcopal Church
74 South Common St.
Lynn, MA 01902
(781)599-4220

Email Search Committee co-chairs with any questions:

Helen Patmon mustangblueinc@comcast.net
Steve Switzer switz70@gmail.com

Links:

St. Stephen’s [website](http://www.ststephenslynn.org) (http://www.ststephenslynn.org)
St. Stephen’s [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ststephenslynn) page (https://www.facebook.com/ststephenslynn)
St. Stephen’s [2018 annual report](http://www.ststephenslynn.org/resources/annual-reports) (http://www.ststephenslynn.org/resources/annual-reports)
Diversity: from [Data USA/Lynn](https://datausa.io) (https://datausa.io)
The Demographic story of St. Stephen’s and the city of Lynn in the [Lynn Executive Insite Report](#)
For more information and history on the city of Lynn, visit the [website](#).