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Sunday, December 31:

Lessons and Carols Service

Combined Service 10:30 am

Sunday, January 7: Epiphany Sunday

Epiphany Sunday Communion Sunday

Celebration Service 8:30 am

Sunday School 9:40 am

Traditional Worship 11:00 am

Sunday, January 14:

Radically Free Series Begins

Celebration Service 8:30 am

Sunday School 9:40 am

Traditional Worship 11:00 am

Listen to sermons at: http://www.stsumc.org/listen/



OUR MISSION is to know God and make God known!

A Message from the Pastor

Merry Christmas!

I hope and pray that all of you had a wonderful Christmas Day, and that you're enjoying this season of Christmastide. I can't even put into words how wonderful our first Christmas at St. Stephens has been for Sarah and me. We had a blast at our children's musical; all the kids,



parents, grandparents, and Lindsay did a wonderful job putting together a joyful and entertaining program.

Christmas Eve Candlelight services were truly joyful. I am so grateful that God has brought all of us together at St. Stephen's!

Because of the hectic nature of the Christmas Season, this is a new thing we're trying — an E-Vangel newsletter. We hope you find it to be an informative and fun way to keep up with what's happening at our church.

There are so many good stories to think about this Christmas; the story of God's birth into the world is one that never gets old. We hope you'll be able to join us this Sunday at 10:30 as we tell the story again, sing some of our favorite songs together, and celebrate Emmanuel, God with us!

Paz,

Nathan





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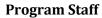
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Oak Forest Paint Party



Oak Forest Paint Party - Oak Forest residents and St. Stephen's members are invited to an art tile painting party at St. Stephen's on Saturday, December 30, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This event will include lunch free of charge, Flying Saucer pies, and other sweet treats and refreshments. Art tiles are free to Oak Forest residents and St. Stephen's members age 65+ (up to 2 grandchildren age 5+ can help). There is fee for all others. All proceeds will benefit the Playground for All Abilities planned in our

neighborhood! For tickets, you may contact Steven Fisher at f15h3r@hotmail.com or 713 - 724 -8397; or the Houston Parks Board.

Lessons and Carols Service



Lessons and Carols Service - Next Sunday, December 31, New Year's Eve, we hope you will still be in the Christmas spirit and join us for a combined service of lessons and carols at 10:30 a.m.! We will retell the Christmas story, sing some of our favorite Christmas songs, and hear incredible music from our musicians.

Church Office Closures



The church office will be closed on Monday the 1st of January in observance of New Year's Day. The office will be open again on Tuesday, January 2nd, operating normal business hours.

Radically Free



"Radically Free" - On Sunday, January 14, we'll begin a new worship series. In it, we'll explore Paul's Letter to the Galatians and how it calls us to live today.

Messy Church



Messy Church - Does your family want to experience worshipping God and learning about Jesus in a fun and engaging way? Join us for Messy Church, Wednesday, January 31, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall! We will tell stories, do crafts, eat food and worship God in a way based on creativity, hospitality and celebration that everyone can enjoy. This event is fun for people of all ages!