

## Stephen Ministry in the New Year

**TWO SAPC MEMBERS**, Lexa Kaplan and Julie Cazin, are spending this week in training to become Stephen Leaders. A Stephen Leader helps oversee and carry out the work necessary to keep our congregation's Stephen Ministry functioning smoothly. In addition to being experienced and caring Stephen Ministers, Lexa and Julie are both retired teachers who have strong gifts of organization, administration and a love for education. They will be wonderful additions to our current leadership team composed of Mark Whitley, Art King and I, as well as several leaders from our partner church North Raleigh United Methodist. Lexa and Julie report that they are having a wonderful training (it doesn't hurt that they happen to be in balmy Orlando) and are already calling "home" with suggestions and ideas for ways to help our congregation get more involved in Stephen Ministry. When they return, please take a moment to congratulate them on becoming Stephen Leaders.

**IN OTHER STEPHEN MINISTRY NEWS**, we are still recruiting for our 2012 Stephen Minister training class to be held on Monday evenings at North Raleigh United Methodist church. If you feel that God may be calling you to this type of distinctively Christian care-giving, this class will help you explore that call and provide you the necessary skills and training to make this a meaningful ministry for you.

**IF THE HOLIDAYS WERE DIFFICULT FOR YOU**, or you are experiencing life transitions or challenges, please consider reaching out for a Stephen Minister. It is a show of strength, not weakness, to know when to ask for help. This is what the church is for! There are trained, caring Stephen Ministers both within SAPC and at other churches that stand ready to help you, to walk with you and pray with and for you.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION** about Stephen Ministry, please [contact me](#) at the church office.

Rev. Diane

## merge meets

6PM TONIGHT: Do you have younger children? Would you like to hear words of comfort/joy from parents who have been there/done that/washed it out of the t-shirt?! You are invited to MERGE today at SAPC at 6pm in our Fellowship Hall. New attendees are always encouraged and welcomed!!

## hs bible study

7PM TONIGHT: The Gospel According to Glee - this timely High School Bible study begins tonight at 7pm in the youth room (room 24). Whether you adore the show or not, it will be a great 15 weeks of sharing, learning and fun for our youth!

## timely class

6:30PM SUNDAY: We invite you to attend "Who Should We Ordain" – the Church and Homosexuality, a one-time class led by Sr. Pastor Larry Duncan. This class is offered as part of our Issues of Faith and Life: An Occasional Series. Please join us on Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8pm in the church's Fellowship Hall.

## ANNUAL LAF CHILI SALE

Orders will be taken in our narthex for meat and veggie chili this Sunday. The chili is \$10/quart; all sales benefit Loaves & Fishes ministry.

## SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm is our next Ladies' Tea! Dress up and share in some feminine fun and fellowship as we sip our tea and enjoy delicious snacks. We will have special activities just for the "little women" this year, and a great entertainment program for everyone to enjoy. This event is open to ladies age 4 and older. Bring all the special ladies in your life!

## PLEASE NOTE

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 16 in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

### We're back on track this Sunday with our two regular worship offerings at 9am and 11am

In addition, we invite you to join us for Sunday School for children, youth, and adults.

**North Raleigh Ministries is in immediate need of volunteers** in the Crisis Center and Food Pantry on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. If you can help please let [Karen Schley](#) (846-7902) know.

**Souper Bowl of Caring** - Our annual can collection kicks off this Sunday. Please bring the large #10 cans for the Shepherd's Table Soup Kitchen, and/or smaller cans and non-perishable food items to help North Raleigh Ministries. We will collect these items in the sanctuary through February 5. In the weeks ahead, look for more information in our weekly emails, bulletin announcements, our Facebook group page (Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church - Raleigh), and on Twitter (@SAPCgoodnews).

**Loving caregiver needed!** Children's Ministry is looking for someone to be a back-up to their Sunday nursery caregivers, as well as helping with childcare for mid-week and special Sunday evening offerings. This paid position has hours that vary, but such a loving group of children (infant through 5<sup>th</sup> grade); if interested in this opportunity, email [Ann Wright](#). Please note a background check is required.

**Children's Choirs resume this Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Join us on Facebook – Click on the blue square to check us out; we would love to have you as a part of our group! It's Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church – Raleigh. Post on our group page today!

[www.sapc.com](http://www.sapc.com)

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**Need Pastoral Care?** The number to call is 919-740-6038. In addition, our Prayer Team meets Wednesdays at 11:30am at the church.