

JUGHEADS

JOURNAL

SPECIAL EDITION Re: Our Move to St. Stephen's Church—Edina • Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Our new home is...St. Stephen's-Edina! New facility confirmed 43 days after notice

It's been somewhat of a whirlwind since receiving word on February 10 that we need to vacate Wooddale Church-Edina (WCE) by the end of May due to their preschool starting in June. While forever grateful for the 10 years we've had at WCE (formerly Colony Park Church), I remain convinced that apart from a work of God, we very well may have been without a permanent home this summer (and maybe even this fall).

Within five hours of informing our email list on Feb. 11 that we needed a new home, an immediate effort began among the leaders of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church (SSEC, spearheaded by Vestry Clerk and Jughead mom **Erica Nowak** and Vestry President **Julie Baker**) to thoroughly tour, discuss, measure, vet, and plan about whether or not JUGHEADS, LLC could work in that facility. Many have worked toward this reality, but suffice it to say that at least for the next year, all of our after school clubs, release day camps, and most summer camps will be based just six blocks due north from the place we've called "home" since 2005!

This Special Edition of *JUGHEADS Journal* gives all current JH families key info. about our move: timeline, pros & cons, and selected nitty gritty details for our 2nd major relocation in our history.

Timeline At-a-Glance Key Dates for The Move

Wed., March 25: Summer registration opens via mail/online. Take advantage of discount coupons through **Friday, May 1!**

Friday, May 22: Fall registration opens via mail (online **June 8**). Last day of clubs held at Wooddale Church-Edina.

Sat., May 23: Moving Day from Wooddale-Edina to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. (Volunteers welcome!)

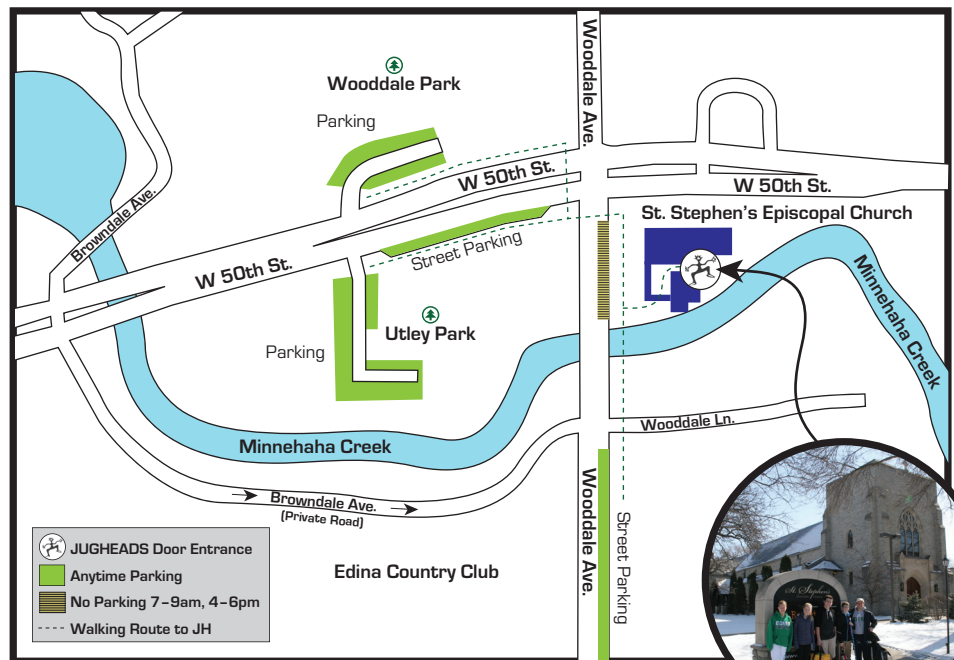
Tues.-Fri., May 26-29: Final school year clubs held at our new location, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. (See our 2015 Juggling Camps form for our summer schedule.)



An Octet of Pros & Cons: Expectations E.g., Space / Layout vs. Ceilings / Parking

Given the enormity of this move, here are some anticipated pros & cons as we set our expectations for our new home base:

PRO #1: Square Footage and Storage Spaces. Our main area, The Gathering Space, has a slightly more expansive floor plan than the gym at WCE. We'll have snack and lower-ceiling juggling in the Commons, plus The Creekside Room for a 3rd area when needed. We're also being given stewardship over a classroom for our office, main storage, and fridge, plus other spaces to store snack, cafeteria tables, unicycles, and misc. bins.



JUGHEADS New Location Beginning **Tues., May 26, 2015** (last week of school year clubs):
St Stephen's Episcopal Church • 4439 W 50th St • Edina 55424 • Edina, MN 55424



PRO #2: Layout. All of our areas are on one level, connected by an indoor ramp (with bathrooms up a half-flight of stairs from The Gathering Space). Kids can easily move among our rooms.

PRO #3: Cozy Areas. Minnehaha Creek is a local icon for natural beauty, and it borders the entire south side of church property. When not juggling, kids can relax outside in the courtyard and on the patio in nice weather.

PRO #4: Geographic Location. Given the quick turnaround time to consider new locations, one goal was to remain in Edina for all-around centralized convenience. While we'll keep our eyes open for our next move (whether



in one year or 10 years), it's hard to beat moving just six blocks down Wooddale Avenue!

CON #1: Ceiling Height. St. Stephen's doesn't have a gym, so this is the biggest drawback of our new home. At 11'6", the ceilings in The Gathering Space are the same height as The Treehouse/Great Hall at Wooddale-Edina. St. Stephen's ceiling is adequate for five rings, five clubs, and seven balls, but six+ (solo) rings, certain club passing tricks, and "9 ball height" for "Rock This Town" and "Reach" can't be rehearsed. But to paraphrase Jugheads and SLT reps **Jacob Cowan** and **Daniel Van Hoomissen**, our most serious jugglers (themselves included) could just go to a gym on their own time to practice certain skills.

CON #2: Parking. There is no parking lot dedicated to SSEC. There are a few spots on Wooddale Ave. in front of our designated church entrance, but there is NO parking there from 7-9 a.m. or 4-6 p.m.; during this timeframe, it can be used *only* for quick drop-offs and pick-ups. All coaches and student leaders should park in Utley Park (our annual picnic site) or Wooddale Park lots. Parents wanting to walk in to drop off/pick up their kids could: park farther south on Wooddale Ave.; park on side streets; or preferably, park in Utley Park (or on 50th St. west of Wooddale). **At the request of St. Stephen's, all JH-related vehicles and foot traffic should avoid using 50th St. (east of Wooddale) for drop-offs, pick-ups and building access.**

CON #3: Schedule Conflicts. While St. Stephen's will prioritize us above other outside groups requesting space, there are events that require our flexibility. Vacation Bible School typically meets one week in June. This year that means for the week of **June 29-July 3** we'll have no morning camps and will hold our afternoon camps at St. Peter's Lutheran Church on 55th & France in Edina. Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) meets twice a year (Nov. & April), so we'll either cancel Thurs. & Fri. Rec. those two weeks or consider alternate locations. We may also need occasional consolidation for church functions (funerals, etc.).

CON #4: Cell Phone Reception. This is our least concern, as we discourage electronics here anyway! However, we ask parents for patience if Paul or your child doesn't respond to texts or calls right away during our clubs/camps. We will have reception in our office and Commons, but the cement structure of The Gathering Space makes cell use infeasible. Paul will retrieve messages every 15 minutes or so as he moves among our rooms.

Nitty-Gritty Details @ St. Stephen's

Arriving, Eating, Juggling, Departing

WOODDALE AVE. DOOR (west side): All Jugheads, parents and staff will enter/exit St. Stephen's through the west side lower-level courtyard entrance off Wooddale Ave. You may drop off/pick up via Wooddale Ave. (look for our sidewalk sign), but remember: no parking from 7-9 a.m./4-6 p.m. Park in Utley or Wooddale Park lots, or on 50th St. (west of Wooddale Ave.).

ACTIVITY AREAS: During most of our club/camp time, two main areas will be open: The Gathering Space and the Commons, with the Creekside Room as a supervised overflow. Weather permitting, we'll allow juggling in the courtyard/patio, with occasional trips to Utley or Wooddale Park led by our SLT.

PACKS, SNACKS, BIFFIES & BIKES: As Jugheads arrive, they'll put their belongings in the hallway to the right of our entrance between our office/storage area and our snack area (The Commons, overlooking Minnehaha Creek). Our bathrooms are across The Gathering Space to the left of our entrance, and the church will install a bike rack in the courtyard.

PICK-UP: One "pro" mentioned in the earlier article is that all of our areas are on one level (with an adjoining ramp). This makes it easy to locate kids upon parents' arrival. **NOTE:** On school year Wednesdays, the church sets up for their weekly 6 p.m. dinner starting at 5:30 p.m. For this reason, we'll put away our props at 5:30 and move to the Commons for the remainder of club on Wednesdays only.

POLICIES IN PROGRESS: Many other logistics will be tweaked as we begin experiencing the space on May 26 and this summer. Paul & Wendy may put out an updated brochure in late summer to more fully outline the privileges and responsibilities of being a Jughead in our new home of St. Stephen's Church.

A Brief History of the Physical Location of JUGHEADS, LLC
1994-1998: **Edina Community Center Room 145** (Wise Guys)
1998-2005: **ECC Auditorium** (Youth Development/Youth Service)
2005-2015: **Colony Park Church/Wooddale Church-Edina Campus**
2015-????: **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Edina, MN**

Final Notes:

To be candid, this process has been taxing on top of JJ17 prep. and other company issues. Some may wonder if St. Stephen's is our "ideal" location; I attest that the church leaders have opened wide their doors to make this work. The cons are there, but to be welcomed and accommodated is a huge "PRO!"

About every three months in '15-'16, Wendy & I will meet with St. Stephen's leaders and mutually assess our presence at SSEC. I deem it wise to not ignore all other leads for potential future locations, but if and when we move again, my hope is that it will happen with more time to prepare. Meanwhile, we're very grateful for the storage, office, indoor/outdoor areas, and the **welcome** we've received from so many who are crucial to making this move happen—and therefore, crucial to our survival.

We hope you can make this move with us, and that you can see the good in this door providentially opening for us (even while others closed), allowing us to continue developing youth through juggling in Edina and the Twin Cities Area.

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JH Location thru 5/22/15: Wooddale-Edina, 5532 Wooddale Ave., Edina 55424 • JH Location on 5/26/15: St. Stephen's, 4439 W. 50th St., Edina 55424