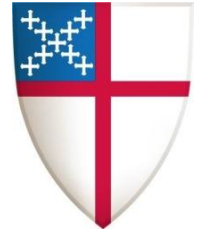




ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWSLETTER April 2019



ST. STEPHEN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rector – Rev. Allison Cornell

Deacon – Ben Wetherill

Editor – Carol Dockter

Special dates in April

- Fifth Sunday in Lent, April 7, 2019
- **Holy Week,** April 14-21, 2019
- Palm/Passion Sunday, April 14, 2019
- Wednesday - Taize April 17, 2019
- Maundy Thursday, April 18, 2019
- Good Friday, April 19, 2019
- Vigil April 20, 2019
- Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019
- Administrative Professionals Day, April 24, 2019



Palm Sunday (The Sunday of the Passion)

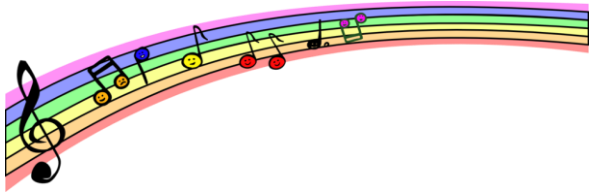
The Sunday before Easter at which Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and Jesus' Passion on the cross are recalled. It is also known as the Sunday of the Passion. Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week. Red is the liturgical color for the day. The observance of Palm Sunday in Jerusalem was witnessed by the pilgrim Egeria in about 381-384. During this observance there was a procession of people down the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem. The people waved branches of palms or olive trees as they walked. They sang psalms, including Ps 118, and shouted the antiphon, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" The Palm Sunday observance was generally accepted throughout the church by the twelfth century. However, the day was identified in the 1549 BCP as simply "The Sunday next before Easter." The blessing of branches and the procession were not included. The 1928 BCP added the phrase "commonly called Palm

Sunday" to the title of the day. A form for blessing palms was provided by the Book of Offices (1960). The 1979 BCP presents the full title for the day, "The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday" (BCP, p. 270). The liturgy of the palms is the entrance rite for the service. The congregation may gather at a place apart from the church and process to the church after the blessing of the branches of palm or other trees (BCP, p. 270). The liturgy of the palms includes a reading of one of the gospel accounts of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. The branches may be distributed to the people before the service or after the prayer of blessing. All the people hold branches in their hands during the procession. Appropriate hymns, psalms, or anthems are sung. The Prayer Book notes that the hymn "All glory, laud, and honor" (Hymns 154-155) and Ps 118:19-29 may be used (BCP, p. 271). The Hymnal 1982 also provides "Ride on! ride on in majesty!" (Hymn 156) and "Hosanna in the highest" (Hymn 157) for the procession at the liturgy of the palms. The Hymnal 1982 provides musical settings for the opening anthem, the blessing over the branches, and the bidding for the procession (Hymn 153). The procession may halt for a station at an appropriate place such as the church door. The BCP provides a stational collect which may be used (p. 272). The palm liturgy may be led by a deacon or lay reader if a bishop or priest is unavailable.

Excerpted from The Episcopal Dictionary



MORE ABOUT HOLY WEEK



Taizé Chant (held on WEDNESDAY)

This form of contemporary liturgical song was first developed for use by the ecumenical Christian community at Taizé, France. It uses repetitive structures that can easily be memorized, along with other parts for solo voices, choirs, and instruments. Jacques Berthier prepared the musical settings for Taizé chant. In recent years it has gained acceptance and is used in many denominations. Latin is now used for singing Taizé Chant at Taizé because of the international nature of the community. However, settings of Taizé Chant are edited for use in other languages, including English. Wonder, Love, and Praise has a variety of hymns that use Taizé chant, such as "O Lord hear my pray'r" (Hymn 827) and "Laudate omnes gentes" (Hymn 830).

Excerpted from The Episcopal Dictionary



MAUNDY THURSDAY

The Thursday in Holy Week. It is part of the Triduum, or three holy days before Easter. It comes from the Latin *mandatum novum*, "new commandment," from Jn 13:34. The ceremony of washing feet was also referred to as "the Maundy." Maundy Thursday celebrations also commemorate the institution of the eucharist by Jesus "on the night he was betrayed." Egeria, a fourth-century pilgrim to Jerusalem, describes elaborate celebrations and observances in that city on Maundy Thursday. Special celebration of the institution of the eucharist on Maundy Thursday is attested by the Council of Hippo

in 381. The Prayer Book liturgy for Maundy Thursday provides for celebration of the eucharist and a ceremony of the washing of feet which follows the gospel and homily. There is also provision for the consecration of the bread and wine for administering Holy Communion from the reserved sacrament on Good Friday. Following this, the altar is stripped and all decorative furnishings are removed from the church.

Excerpted from The Episcopal Dictionary

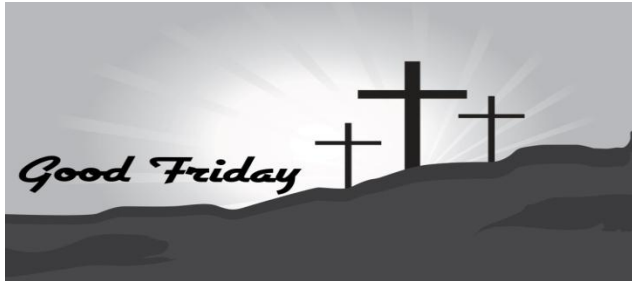


Agape Meal

(a Maundy Thursday Tradition)

Selfless Christian love. Agape reflects the love of God, and it is the kind of love that Christians are called to meal or "Love Feast" of the early church, from share with one another. The term is also used for a common which the eucharist developed as a separate rite





The Friday before Easter Day, on which the church commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. It is a day of fasting and special acts of discipline and self-denial. In the early church candidates for baptism, joined by others, fasted for a day or two before the Paschal feast. In the west the first of those days eventually acquired the character of historical reenactment of the passion and death of Christ. The liturgy of the day includes John's account of the Passion gospel, a solemn form of intercession known as the solemn collects (dating from ancient Rome), and optional devotions before the cross (commonly known as the veneration of the cross). The eucharist is not celebrated in the Episcopal Church on Good Friday, but Holy Communion may be administered from the reserved sacrament at the Good Friday service.

Excerpted from The Episcopal Dictionary

VIGIL A service at night prior to a major feast or other important observance. The vigil anticipates and begins the commemoration of the following day. It may allow the participants an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the next day's service. Scripture texts that will be used at the service on the following day may be introduced at a vigil. Christian vigils have been observed since the early years of the church. The Easter Vigil dates from at least the second century, and it is described in Hippolytus's Apostolic Tradition. The candidates for baptism spent the night in vigil, where they listened to readings and instructions. At cockcrow, the baptismal water was blessed and the candidates were baptized.

Excerpted from The Episcopal Dictionary



The feast of Christ's resurrection. According to Bede, the word derives from the Anglo-Saxon spring goddess Eostre. Christians in England applied the word to the principal festival of the church year, both day and season. Easter Day is the annual feast of the resurrection, the pascha or Christian Passover, and the eighth day of cosmic creation. Faith in Jesus' resurrection on the Sunday or third day following his crucifixion is at the heart of Christian belief. Easter sets the experience of springtime next to the ancient stories of deliverance and the proclamation of the risen Christ. In the west, Easter occurs on the first Sunday after the full moon on or after the vernal equinox. Easter always falls between Mar. 22 and Apr. 25 inclusive. Following Jewish custom, the feast begins at sunset on Easter Eve with the Great Vigil of Easter.

Excerpted from The Episcopal Dictionary

Paschal Candle

A large candle that symbolizes the risen Christ. It is often decorated with a cross, symbols of the resurrection, the Greek letters Alpha and Omega, and the year. The term "Paschal" concerns Easter or Passover. At the Easter Vigil, the Paschal candle is lit from the new fire. It is carried by the deacon, who pauses three times and sings or says, "The light of Christ," and the people respond, "Thanks be to God." The Paschal candle is carried by the celebrant if there is no deacon. After it is carried to the chancel, its flame may be used to light candles held by members of the congregation. This symbolizes the spreading of the light of Christ into the congregation and the world. . *The Episcopal Dictionary.*

RECAP PLUS MORE ON HOLY WEEK – from the desk of Rev. Allison



HOLY WEEK and Easter Worship:

The season of Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and continues through to Easter Sunday. I encourage you and challenge you to participate in all of the week's services as they provide us with paths into deeper connection of Christ's last days on the Earth with us. I suggest to you that the deeper you go into the sorrow and suffering of Jesus and his followers, the more meaningful and glorious your joy at Easter.

Palm Sunday – Procession with palms from the Parish Hall, reading of the Passion of Jesus according to Luke.

Holy Week Wed – Taize service of readings and meditative chants providing a prelude to Jesus' last days

Maunder Thurs – Agape meal in Parish Hall at 6pm, Service at 7pm with guided meditation of Jesus' washing his disciples' feet. Stations for foot or hand washing. Stripping of the altar. Beginning of all-night prayer vigil in church.

Good Fri – 12 pm Noon service of Jesus' Last Seven Words from the Cross – readings and reflections by Local area pastors and chaplains. 7 PM traditional Good Friday service.

Saturday Easter Vigil – 5pm Lighting and procession of Pascal Candle, Readings of God's acts in history, Joyous acclamation of Jesus' resurrection, renewal of baptismal vows.

Easter Sunday – 10:30am Traditional Easter Day Service with baptism of Mason Egbert (Alverita's great Grandson, Easter Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt.

GREETINGS FROM REV. ALLISON



Hello and Happy Spring,

As we watch the earth come alive from its winter slumbers, I always feel a sense of newness and freshness surrounding me at this time of year. I have the desire to work in the garden, pruning dead stuff and planting new stuff. It occurs to me that this is similar to our spiritual lives as we continue in our season of Lent towards the glorious celebration of Easter and its promise of a new life in Christ. Our church is going through a similar pruning and planting as we consider what parts of our church life seem to have reached their natural end and other new growth is springing up.

I want to encourage us all to explore where we sense God is planting new ideas, new people, new ministries, new energy around us and to help encourage those new things to blossom and grow. And as you experience that same regenerative energy in your own faith life and fellowship, share what you find is -- as our Presiding Bishop says -- "loving, liberating, and life-giving" about your life in Christ. Your personal observations and daily life examples are the seeds that may awaken in someone else a desire, a need, a yearning for the source of what you have found gives that sense of new life and new energy. Tell your friends, family, coworkers, neighbors about this newness and freshness that you enjoy as part of our St. Stephen's family. Invite them to come and see... Just like Jesus invited his first followers... Come and see...

Peace and blessings,
Rev. Allison +



PARISH COMMUNITY AND EVENTS



A NOTE FROM WES MOULTON



Dear St. Stephen's Parishioners:

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as your Organist/Choirmaster these past almost four years. I have known this parish to be a special place since I first arrived.

My time at St. Stephen's has been meaningful and a blessing to me. Seeing and getting to know each of you, week after week, has been one of my joys since moving to Arizona.

I will always look back on my time at St. Stephen's with fondness and caring.

I appreciate your thoughts and prayers as I search for my next church position.

My wishes for each of you are the sentiments of one of my favorite hymns, an old Irish Blessing:

"May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the Sun shine warm upon your face,
And rains fall softly on your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand."

With Sincere Appreciateion,

Wes Moulton, Organist/Choirmaster

Wes, Thank you for sharing your musical knowledge and talent with us at St. Stephen's. We wish you the very best in finding your new music ministry. God bless you as you go forth.

Most sincerely, Carol Dockter Editor and
Evensong Choir Member

Informal Men's Gathering



We met on March 16 for a shared breakfast and discussion of Forgiveness. On Saturday, April 13 at 8:30 AM in the Parish Hall there will be a joint gathering all men and women of the church for a shared pot luck breakfast and discussion of a another topic of relevance. All men and women of the Parish are invited but please let Ed Stone (tel: 254-317-1148) or Gloria Brunell (tel: 520-508-9474) know what breakfast item you will be bringing to share.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew

The Mission of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew is to bring men and youth to Christ. The Brotherhood endeavors to accomplish this mission through the threefold disciplines of Prayer, Study and Service. At our March Meeting we were pleased to sign on two new members, Ed Stone and Eddie Masga. Our next Brotherhood meeting will be Thursday, April 4 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall. We will meet for a brief devotional and discussion of St. Andrew. Please read John 12:35-42 before the meeting. During the short business meeting we will continue to discuss possibilities for a community service project for the Brotherhood. Contact Bruce Dockter (tel: 458-1807) for information.

Helping Hands Ministry

The Helping Hands ministry is available for anyone in the Parish who needs help with odd jobs around their house. Information on the Helping Hands Ministry is on the Bulletin Board in the Parish Hall. Please talk to Bill Brunell or Bruce Dockter if you need help.

Freshening Up Our Spaces

From Rev. Allison



Part of the spiritual gift of hospitality is to have nice worship, fellowship, and meeting spaces for us and our guests to enjoy. Since my arrival in October, we have been considering ways to freshen up our various spaces to make them more attractive and comfortable for ourselves and those who visit with us.

We recently moved our Parish Administrator Mark Sowards into his new office spaces in the Educational Building, allowing us to tidy up and give Mark a new space to work in that is close by the Rector's Office. If you haven't seen it yet, stop by and check it out.

Next we are preparing what was the old office to become the new library space. Sherry and Renee have graciously been working on removing the old carpet, preparing for and painting the walls a calming blue, and next we will be laying new laminate flooring. After that we will move the bookshelves in and load them up with our books. Then putting in table and chairs and voila, new library/meeting space. Check out our progress.

By the time you read this, we may have also had the roof leak repaired and tinted the altar windows so that we don't have to have the pull-down shades any longer.

The ECW is exploring bids from various contractors this spring and summer for a renovation of the kitchen spaces which we hope will also brighten and give us a more open concept for our fellowship time.

There are additional plans to freshen up our other spaces as time, volunteers, and money/donations allow.

Our freshening up efforts should give us opportunities to show our hospitality by inviting outside groups to consider our facilities as spaces they can rent for their own needs such as meetings, parties, weddings, or classes.

Attention, Attention, Attention,



Saturday, April 13th Noon to 3: PM

Coming Soon: Summer Wildflower Planting – by Rev. Allison



We have purchased 4 lbs of wildflower seeds (for wildflowers that are conducive to Southeast Arizona climate) and intend to scatter them to grow in the back part of our property with the hopes that the monsoon rains will get them sprouting and growing this summer. If you have seen the yellow and orange flowers along Foothills Rd, you begin to get the idea of what our backyard could be like... only with a wider variety of flowers.

Because our budget is insufficient to hire a regular landscaping service, we thought that having a wildflower field that does not require regular mowing would benefit us and our area in several ways: 1) no need to mow that area 2) Wildflowers are beautiful to look at and would perhaps draw people to come and just see all the wildflowers we grow 3) The local bee and butterfly population will have more nectar to support their needs 4) We will have an ongoing supply of flowers to use for our altar flowers.

This planting of wildflowers on our land is part of our stewardship of our resources by helping God's creation in support of bees and butterflies (and hummingbirds), being responsible in our expenditures of our budget by cutting landscaping costs and altar flower costs, and making use of part of our land that has otherwise remained thus far under-appreciated/under-utilized.

FUTURE (MARK YOUR CALENDARS) AND PAST (WHAT WE MISSED)



Coming May 11th 8:30am to 2pm - we will hold our spring rummage sale combined with a community yard sale. We will invite other members of the community to rent some of our parking spaces to set up their crafts or household goods to sell. The idea being that with more items on offer for sale, we will attract more potential buyers. Our men's group will grill and sell hotdogs, chips, and sodas for shoppers to help with fundraising also. Volunteers are needed to be parking lot entrance monitors, helpers (go get things, empty trash bins, restock bathrooms, etc...), and church docents to welcome those who want to see our church, offer a prayer, light a candle, etc...



Vacation Bible School (VBS) Planning and Preparation Starting after Easter:

One of St. Stephen's goals was to re-imagine and re-invigorate our children's Christian Education ministry. We are beginning that imagination and energy with a summer vacation bible school.

The topic will be "The Bread of Life" and exploring certain Bible stories associated with bread leading up to Jesus and his Last Supper.

We need 3-4 people willing to help us plan the daily lessons and activities for the VBS week and also help during the week to conduct the lessons and activities. We are looking at late July 22-26 in the evenings from 5:30 to 7:30pm. Dinner from 5:30 to 6pm, lessons and activities 6pm to 7:30pm.

Please talk to Rev Allison or Cheryl Stone for more information and to volunteer.

Community Connections Update



Our Souper Bowl brought in over 80 cans of soup and veggies that were donated to Peach's Pantry. 10 of us from the church gathered to watch the Super Bowl and share lots of snacks. Thanks to all who donated cans!

A Quote about Community

On February 23rd the movie the movie about Howard Thurman titled "Bucks Against The Wall" was shown and shared . Rev. Allison Cornell hosted this commemoration of Black History month. Dottie Gutwin suggested that this quote was relevant to our St. Stephen's Community:

"Community can not for long feed on itself; it can only flourish until the coming of others from beyond, their unknown and undiscovered brothers."

Today, we like to add "and sisters" to the quote. Anyway, it certainly is worth our consideration, thought and conversation. Thank you, Dottie from Carol D.

Summary Treasurer's Report February 2019

<u>Account</u>	<u>Activity YTD</u>	<u>Budgeted YTD</u>
Income	\$14,215.00	\$18,286.00
Expenses	\$27,093.00	\$27,162.00
Difference	(\$12,878.00)	(\$4,002.00)

REPRESENTATION AT THE CONSECRATION OF BISHOP REDDALL



Several members of St. Stephen's traveled to Phoenix for the Consecration of Bishop –Jennifer A. Reddall. Rev. Allison was in attendance as well as Bruce and Dockter Dockter and Ed Stone. Pictured to the right are Neil and Cate Hesser, Wes Moulton and Cheryl Stone who sang with the multi-church choir at the ceremony. Many of us witnessed this ceremony for the first time; but, Cheryl mentioned she had been to several. Ed Stone took pictures including this one.

A FEW REMINDERS

Learning and Discussion Opportunities

- **Exploring our baptism vows** continues to **Friday April 12th at from 6 – 7:30 pm**. These classes serve as a preparation for baptism on Easter Sunday.
- **Lenten Study Practicing Forgiveness** is a discussion of the reflections in the booklet “Practicing Forgiveness” and is held on **Tuesday nights at 6pm**.
- **Where's the Good News in the news today?** Come to church on **Sundays at 9am** for coffee and discussion of the headlines and what our response is/should be based on our faith as followers of Jesus. How does Scripture inform our response?

SIGN UPS FOR VARIOUS EVENTS

- **Easter Sunday Brunch** sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall. Bring something to share
- **All night prayer vigil** sign-up is also in the Parish Hall. Come spend an hour in prayer in the church throughout the night that Jesus spent in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Encouragement from the Senior Warden to Volunteer

We are in the process of some necessary repairs, roof leak, new screen on the altar window, carpet removed and painting the library. Thank you to those who have donated the funds and time for these projects.

We still have many other projects and clean-ups! Will you be part? We need help with Spring clean up and funds for items that need to be fixed or replaced.

Our Spring Rummage/Craft sale will be in May. If you would like to reserve a spot to sell your crafts or yard sale items please let us know.

Blessings to all,

Cheryl



A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM ROSEMARY SNAPP

A WARNING



I want to take a few minutes to remember more than 20 years of Wednesday morning Bible Studies here and more importantly to issue a warning to you of what happens if you get bit by the Bible Bug. It happened to me in the 1970's. I engaged with Education for Ministry, hung out with Bible scholar Verna and read books by Borg, Bruggemann and Boland about Jesus and early Christians. That can set a dangerous trap. It makes you want to sit around with people who read God's storybooks and reflect on their own life stories.



If you do this you find yourself enticed into reading ridiculous tales about brothers who fight, even kill each other, about a guy floating around in a boat full of animals, or about a shepherd boy who is made king then misbehaves very badly. And God acts like he enjoys even loves them! You'll imagine wandering around in the desert with cranky people, fussing with Moses and God and read their stories of battles won with crazy victories like singing to make walls crumble. When you come across a book of poems about pastures and lambs and moans and complaints to God you understand this God encourages all kinds of conversations, --especially when Wes has you singing them.

The books to really watch out for are Mark, Luke and Matthew. They get you to relate to the man, Jesus and he asks you, "Who do you say I am?" and in that dialogue with him you find out a lot about yourself and maybe some things you need to change and some ideas about what being human in God's kingdom means; all that dying and not dying and being last or first and the lost found. It's all very radical and upsetting but paradoxically reassuring if you take it seriously. Sort of mind blowing. You might end up collecting carloads of blankets or crossing barricaded borders or cooking for an Army.

Then, fair warning- with Paul you will wander all over the place being jailed and shipwrecked while he bossily tries to convince you to take on the mind of and be at one with the risen Cosmic Christ. He and John think we can be a whole new creation and love everything and everybody the way God does because the Spirit is in us and with us. Pretty scary stuff. They seem to think we are like our banners, loved and loving and have gifts to serve and be ambassadors of reconciliation in the world.

The most dangerous part of all this is that when you sit, pray, laugh, cry with God's books and God's people, maybe even some you never wanted to be with before, you will learn you love them and your time with them so much, you will never forget and you will have them in your heart forever. That's what the Bible Study Bug

Trap did to me. Be Aware!

Rosemary Snapp



Note: Rosemary just retired from her long commitment to teaching the bible to our parishioners. Her dedication to her students, her love of the bible and church, and her wisdom are

greatly admired. We have been blessed and are thankful for her commitment. A biography of her and Ralph are on the next page.

A STORY OF RALPH AND ROSEMARY SNAPP by Rosemary

They came to Sierra Vista, Carr Canyon and St. Stephen's, part time in 1992 from Maryland. Moved here full time in 1994. Remodeled a cabin for vacations, (removing 8 tons of trash) then made it their permanent home. Discovered historic sites; entertained grandchildren of early settlers in the canyon, found county records, archives in D.C. about the Civil War soldier who homesteaded their place and created power point programs and gave presentations on this history collection throughout the county. In 1996 they helped form a group, Friends of the Huachuca Mountains, and restored a Forest Service building to a Visitor Information Center, the Carr House. Ralph set up the administrative structure for the non-profit organization, the by-laws and records. He has held all board offices. We have both been president. At their home and Carr House they host many visitors who research the flora and fauna of the mountains and canyons, hikers, those who commune with nature or use the landscape for their art.

Ralph has been an Episcopalian for 93 years, baptized in an historic church in Winchester, Virginia. Rosemary joined in 1958. (They were married in 1948), (have 3 children Randy, Larry and Liz). Ralph worked with the church Boy Scout Troops. Rosemary taught church school, children and adult, vacation Bible school, was program chair for the Women's Group, headed the a committee to create an Ecumenical Ministry for Youth (a drug/suicide hotline), was first woman vestry member at St. Martin's in Severna Park. When they joined St. Ann's in Annapolis Ralph was a teller and Rosemary chaired education committees, was a vestry member, took part in national conferences, (Bible, human relations, group development), studied Education for Ministry, became a Companion of the Holy Cross, a member of the Bishop's Advisory Committee, chair of Mutual Ministry then the lay Ministry Committee, helped create Listening Hearts Ministry, (discerning call



in community). In 1987 she was called to be the Canon for Lay Ministry in the Diocese of Maryland. Her commission consisted of 13 committees, 30 people came to meetings. They created a workshop and video

based on the definition of Lay Ministry which was adopted by the National Church and was shown on National Television. Committees created a prayer book and conference for Aging, a curriculum for church school, helped formulate "Women of Vision" and held intergenerational weekend gatherings for all acolytes in the Diocese and for chaplaincy groups. At Diocesan Conventions the Commission presented their report by enacting a skit involving all members.

They joined St. Stephen's permanently in 1994. Ralph was on vestry for one day and immediately became treasurer. He computerized the financial reporting according to Diocesan procedures, updated maintenance needs of the building and office equipment, created the tellers' reporting. He was assistant treasurer at St. John's in Bisbee computerized their records and became an auditor for the Diocese for churches in Cochise County. We were both on a search committee.

Rosemary has been on vestry and representative to Convention, created intergenerational church school "Joyful Explorers" with Tim Ash, put on pageants, created social/teaching programs for Advent and Lent, was active in ECW activities, and supported Youth and Diocesan ECW programs, giving several workshops in the Diocese. She was a founder of the Arizona chapter of the Society of the Holy Cross, was involved in some of their national conferences. The Episcopal Life Newspaper published her writing on "Life in the Canyon" in 2003. In 1997 she was called to 'just be a presence' in the church on Wednesday mornings. That 'being there' evolved into an Intercessory prayer circle, a contemplative Eucharist, and Bible Study.

