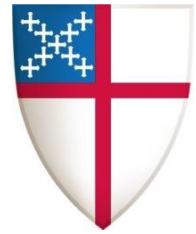




ST. STEPHEN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWSLETTER JULY 2019



Rector - Rev. Allison Cornell

Deacon- Ben Weatherill

Editor- Carol Dockter

## CALENDAR FOR JULY

**Thurs, June 27<sup>th</sup> – Fri July 5<sup>th</sup>**

Rev. Allison on vacation

**Thurs. July 4<sup>th</sup>** – Independence Day

**Sun. July 7<sup>th</sup>** – Parade of American  
Music Concert – 3PM – Sierra  
Evangelical Lutheran Church

**Tues. July 9<sup>th</sup>** – VBS Planning – 5:30PM

**Wed. July 10<sup>th</sup>** – Vestry Meeting  
5:30PM.

**Sat. July 20<sup>th</sup>** – Church Picnic - 8AM

**Mon. July 22<sup>nd</sup>** –St. Mary Magdalene\*\*

**Mon. July 22<sup>nd</sup> thru Fri. July 26** –  
Vacation Bible School – 5:30PM

**Thurs. July 25<sup>th</sup>** – St. James the Apostle\*

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## AUGUST

**Thurs. Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>** – First day of School

**Thurs. Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>** – Info meeting for EFM



## QUESTION – IN WHAT SEASON ARE WE?

Why, we are now in the “**green season**” also known as Ordinary Time which continues until the first Sunday of Advent, Nov 30, 2019. Green is the liturgical color. The following is from

*Voice of Trinity Church New York:* “During this season, the church delves deeper into scripture and the life of Jesus. We read his parables and remember how he changed the lives of everyone he interacted with, in ways big and small. This is a time when we explore what it means to live daily in faith, a time of growth as we explore everyday sacredness.”



## **\*\*Saint Mary Magdalene**

( A disciple of Jesus, she was from the city of Magdala in Judea, hence the surname Magdalene. She was the woman Jesus delivered from evil spirits. Mary was among the women who accompanied and supported Jesus and the apostles. She was present at the crucifixion. Mary was also the first to witness the resurrection, which Jesus told her to announce to his disciples. Some traditions identify her with Mary of Bethany. Since she witnessed the resurrection, she has been called "equal to the Apostles." Bernard of Clairvaux called her the "apostle to the Apostles." Later tradition identified Mary Magdalene with Mary the Sinner, the penitent prostitute who anointed Jesus' feet. She is commemorated on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.





## \*St. James the Apostle

(the Greater). James and John, sons of Zebedee, are mentioned frequently in the gospels. James is usually mentioned first. He is sometimes called "the elder" or "the greater," to distinguish him from the other apostle James, the son of Alphaeus, who is called James the Less. James was a fisherman by trade. James and John left their father and their work as fishermen when called by Jesus. They became apostles, and with Peter formed an inner circle in the apostolic group. They witnessed the Transfiguration, the healing of Peter's mother-in-law, the raising of the daughter of Jairus, and the agony at Gethsemane. Jesus nicknamed the brothers James and John "sons of thunder." Legend claims that James was a great traveler and carried the gospel to Spain. He is the patron saint of that country where he is called Santiago. His work for the Lord in Jerusalem angered Herod, who had him killed about the year 42. He was the first of the apostles to be martyred and the only one whose martyrdom is mentioned in the Bible (Acts 12:1-2). James's life is commemorated in the Episcopal calendar of the church year on July 25.

## GREETINGS FROM REV. ALLISON

“Bless the Lord, winter cold and summer heat; sing praise to him and highly exalt him forever.” --  
Prayer of Azariah 45, The Apocrypha.



As we shift seasons into the heat of the summer, people on vacations, the coming of the monsoon rains, ripening of fruits and vegetables, outdoor activities like golf, hiking, swimming, we give thanks to God for a season of growth, of plenty, of relaxation, of times when we can be amazed at the beauty, majesty, and awe of God’s creation all around us.

I hope that you are able to find opportunities to enjoy summer’s blessings this season.

Peace,  
Rev. Allison+

## A NOTE FROM SENIOR WARDEN CHERYL STONE

Hello all,

Summer is here! with warm breezes and abundant sunshine. As we don our hats, sunscreen, and keep ourselves hydrated with plenty of water; going from air conditioned home, car, and store I ask you to remember the homeless that live in constant heat, minimal shelter, some water but is it clean water? When you see someone that possibly may be homeless, offer a bottle or two of water. I’m not asking you to give them money, simply a clean unopened bottle of water to perhaps help with dehydration in the heat.

I pray you all have a safe and fun summer. See you at church!

Blessings,  
Cheryl Stone  
Sr. Warden



## PARISH EVENTS

**Who:** St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

**What:** Church Picnic and BBQ

**Where:** Veterans Park on Fry Blvd

**When:** 20 July 2019

**How long:** 10 AM to 3 PM



Ed Stone said "The men's and women's groups are partnering up to bring our church together for a fun and fabulous time. There will be food, games and fun for all. This will be a potluck luncheon and will need to identify who will want to bring side dishes, drinks, chips and dessert. The Men's and Women's groups will provide the meats.

## Vacation Bible School



**July 22-26**

**Mon-Fri**

**5:30 - 7:30 pm**

**To Register:**

**520-458-4437 or**

**[www.ststephensaz.org](http://www.ststephensaz.org)**

### Welcome to St. Stephen's 2019 Vacation Bible School!

WE invite children (and their parents) to come and participate in our evening program of looking at the importance of BREAD in several Bible stories including: the unleavened bread in the Exodus story, the manna in the wilderness, the woman adding yeast to her bread dough as a metaphor for the Holy Spirit, Jesus' feeding the 5000 with barley loaves and fish, and the bread of the Last Supper.

**OUR Daily Schedule** will be: 5:30 pm to 7:30pm

5:30 – Gather for prayer

5:35 – Dinner

6:00 – Song learning and singing

6:15 – Story from Bible

6:30 – Activity related to the story

7:15 – Dessert

7:30 – Closing prayer and good night

**EACH DAY** will have a kid friendly dinner such as: Chicken fingers/fish sticks, pizza, hot dogs, taquitos, spaghetti.

**OUR ACTIVITIES** will include different types of bread that are in the stories and we will use that bread as part of our dessert.

**THE LAST DAY** will include having bread and juice in a celebration of The Lord's Supper.

**Revered Allison Cornell St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 2750 Cardinal Dr., Sierra Vista, AZ**

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)



A planning meeting was held on Sun. June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Some of the ideas that we discussed included:

- A picnic in October
- Rummage Sale in November
- Christmas Party in December
- Pie Auction in February
- Rummage Sale in April

September 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 is the next meeting at the home of Priscilla Burrows. Refreshments will be served. The agenda will include a discussion about the October Rummage Sale.

All women of the church are considered members of the group and are welcome to attend the meetings. .

Contact is Gloria Brunell - Chairwoman



## Supplies for Carmichael School

St. Stephen's adopted Carmichael School as part of our Community Connections. They are in need of supplies to start the school year on Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>. Last delivery of our contributions will be made Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>. Some of the items include: Boxes of Kleenex, computer paper, 24 count box crayons, hand sanitizers, scotch tape rolls, yellow #2 pencils, glue sticks, bottles (4 oz) glue, colored markers highlighters, Lysol wipes.

**PEACHES PANTRY** needs our help, too. They will be sending home with the children on the weekends beginning in August. Check the list of food items as you enter the porch.



## The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Making a difference in the Kingdom of God since 1883

A worldwide ministry to men and youth in the Episcopal/Anglican Communion & beyond

For your calendar our next Brotherhood of St. Andrew meeting will be Thursday, August 1 at 6:30 in the Parish Hall. We will skip July 4 as it is a holiday.

The Brotherhood strives to inspire, empower and equip men and boys to fulfill the Great Commission through the threefold disciplines of Prayer, Study and Service.

Each meeting we have a prayer service lasting about 20 minutes. I am proposing that for our study this year we select Dallas Willard's Book "Hearing God. Developing a Conversational Relationship with God". There are nine chapters in the book so we can discuss one each month. You can find this book on Amazon, but I will have one available on Aug 1 for folks to look at.

We have yet to select a community service project so ideas are welcome.

We are also planning to have a service for installation of new members sometime in Sept, details to be worked with Rev. Allison and the Diocesan Coordinator Richard Brown. Right now we have two new members and it would be nice to have more. All are welcome. Bring a friend.

Submitted by Bruce Dockter

## MORTGAGE UPDATE

At the end of July we will be down to only approximately \$5000 left on the mortgage to pay it off. Our monthly payment is \$718 and we continue to make progress towards eliminating our loan. Thank you to all who help make this happen. We will soon be free of our loan.



Submitted by Rev. Allison

### Wildflower Planting Soon! 😊

As we enter the monsoon season, we will look for a favorable day when rains are likely to come and will plant our 4+ pounds of wildflower seeds in the back part of our property. We will try to do so in the morning hours before the heat is too hot.

Volunteers to come with rakes and wheelbarrow will be greatly appreciated. Also those who would like to donate a large bag of topsoil/garden soil to get our seeds off to a good start are also appreciated. We will start in the corner next to Martingale Rd and work along the back property line as far as the soil and see will take us.

We will be trying to spread the seeds out so as to prevent over crowding and allow the seeds to spread each year. The planting of our wildflower field is part of our call to stewardship:

- It will hopefully give us a beautiful field of flowers to admire and to allow others in our community to admire.
- It will also provide us with flowers to use in our church for the altar.
- The flowers will also be a source of food for birds/hummingbirds, butterflies, and especially bees. The bee population is in danger from pesticides and this will give them pesticide free food.
- It allows us to use the property in a natural way and one that frees us from needing landscaping services which we do not have the budget for.
- We hope to become a naturalist space where bird watchers and butterfly watchers can come to see various types... or where people can come just to enjoy the flowers.

Tentative date (need to wait for the rains to be forecast) would be July 13<sup>th</sup> ....stay tuned.



### Columbarium Expansion

Our church records show that we have now filled (with current or future interments) our columbarium niches. This has prompted our Junior Warden, Sherry Simon, to seek bids on expanding our cabinets in the columbarium to the fullest extent possible.

We have a cabinet maker who will craft new cabinets that will closely match the existing cabinets and provide us with an additional 136 niches. Ten of those will be double sized for two persons' ashes with the remaining 126 being individual niches. The bid for this work is \$6680. We have about \$5400 from previous columbarium niche purchases to put toward the cost of the work.

We would like to ask if you would like to now reserve a spot for your ashes in the soon to be crafted new niches? The current cost is \$300.00 per person. We are evaluating if we are under-priced for the Sierra Vista area and expect the cost could go up a bit after the installation of the new cabinets. Sales of new niches would pay for the remainder of the amount of the new cabinets.

The cabinet maker, Adam, is married to an active duty Army Intel Officer. She is expected to be reassigned to a new post October 1<sup>st</sup>, so we have a small window of opportunity in which to have Adam complete the work.

Drawings of the proposed new cabinets will be put on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Please see Sherry Simon for additional information.

### Thank you

Thank you to Eddie Masga who has been helping to repair our irrigation system outside the church and education building when it springs leaks.

Thank you to Sherry Simon and Renee Olejnicak for work on getting the choir room refurbished with paint and soon new flooring.

Thank you to Doreen Oberg and Sharon Graves who have continued to fill in as our accompanists while we search for new permanent accompanist.

Thank you to Carol Dockter for doing a great job putting together our newsletter each month.

### Prayer Requests:



Did you know that St. Stephen's holds an intercessory prayer service on every Wednesday at 9:30am to pray for people we have on our prayer lists? Do you know how to add someone for prayer to our lists? Do you know how to let us know when to remove a person/situation from our prayer lists?

Outside the sanctuary on the bulletin board next to the old office there are two sheets for the adding of people or situations that can use our prayers. There should also be a pencil or pen to use. We also have blue prayer request cards provided by the Daughters of the King women's religious order in the pews that you can use to add people/situations that you want to lift up for prayer. Lastly, you can either call the office or send an email to [office@ststephensaz.org](mailto:office@ststephensaz.org) to add or ask to be removed from our prayer lists.

Each Wednesday, those who gather for our intercessory prayer service then pray for those on our lists, asking for God's healing, strength, protection, guidance, sustaining grace, or support for ministries, churches in Cochise County, outreach efforts, travelers, thanksgivings, and anything else that is added to our lists.

The intercessory prayer service lasts about half an hour and includes time for quiet reflection and sharing together prayers and gratitude. Everyone is welcome to attend and take part in our service.



### New Baby on the Way

Matthew and Cassie Rouse are expecting their first child July 5<sup>th</sup>. We are eagerly anticipating the news of healthy baby and healthy momma Cassie. Keep Matt, Cassie, and the new arrival in your prayers!

### Youth Gathering with other churches coming in September! 😊😊😊

The date is not finalized, however, in September our young men and women are invited to gather with other youth from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), the Unitarian Universalist Church, and perhaps a couple of other churches' youth to do some work at the Krazy Kritters Rescue Ranch for sheep and goats. The youth will help clean the buildings/yards, move some hay bales, and do some other chores for the ranch as well as get to meet sheep and goats up close. A pool party is planned for afterwards to reward all that hard work. More on the date will be coming in July. Stay tuned!



### Church field trip to see Downton Abbey the movie in September!

If you loved the series Downton Abbey, then you won't want to miss the movie. The same well-loved cast returns to continue another story from early 1900s England at the manor house of Downton Abbey. We will pick a Saturday or Sunday afternoon showing to go and see it together and then maybe lunch afterwards to talk about it. Fun for all.

### Deacon Ben Wetherill's last Sunday September 15<sup>th</sup>

Although not here yet, we will be sad to see Deacon Ben complete his retirement from the Border Patrol and head back to Maine in a couple of months. We will have a party to celebrate his retirement and to send him off with our blessings on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September.

## A SHARING ABOUT GRATITUDE

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For Christmas last year, my eldest granddaughter gave me a diary, trimmed in gold with my initial, a big "N", on the cover, with a slim gold pen attached. Sweet, right? Well, at 78 I'm not really thinking of becoming a "diarist"! Yet, I just could not bring myself to "re-gift" it. Therefore, I started asking myself just what could I do with it? I am a member of Overeaters Anonymous (OA) 12 Step Program and we are encouraged to take time each day to think about what we are grateful for. "Ah Ha!", I said to myself, "I'll make it my 'Gratitude Book'." And, so I did. Beginning on January 1st this year, I take a few minutes as I get into bed each night to remember what I am grateful for that day, date the entry and write it down in my special gift from my granddaughter. What I didn't realize at the time was that there could be any specific benefit resulting from writing down these few lines each evening. In addition to remembering her for giving me the book, I swear I sleep better and longer...even after waking in the middle of the night. I have a better attitude upon waking and my days, even the frustrating ones, seem to flow better. And!!! I am better able to handle my food cravings, abstaining from snacks and overeating, able to better stick with just 3 moderate meals per day. Yes, there have been a few nights I've been too tired to do more than write, "No Entry", but there is something written every night since the first of the year. It is a commitment I've made to myself, a new habit in my going-to-bed routine, just like brushing my teeth. What a blessing my granddaughter gave me with this simple gift. God uses every opportunity to make our lives better, doesn't He!


Warm regards,  
Nancy Rea


### REMINDERS FROM THE PEW (Sunday Bulletin)

★ **Parade of American Music** – organ/piano concert Sunday – **July 7 – 3PM** hosted by Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church and Thrivent Financial. Featured will be Billie Hayes and Wes Moulton. Free for the community and a few will offering will be taken to help VICaP who serve many veterans and community members in Sierra Vista and surrounding areas.

➔ **EFM (Education for Ministry)** starts at the end of summer! If you are looking to go deeper in your understanding of the Bible, your faith, church history, prayer, worship and discerning what your particular ministry is within the church, this is the opportunity you are seeking. Sherry Simon and Ed Stone will hold an info meeting in the church on **Aug.15<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm**. See Sherry for more info.

🍇 **Coming Soon: Monthly Spiritual Practices** Saturdays in which we will explore different ways to grow or expand our spiritual practices through various ways...centering prayer, prayer beads/rosaries, art, writing, nature, etc...come try on these practices to see if it helps you with your connection to the Divine.

 **Groceries 4 U program:** With the recent changes we ask that if you decide to donate cards directly that they be in denominations of \$10 or \$30. Unfortunately Fry's has changed their card format and there is no longer a unique barcode on the card or package so we can't use them easily in our program. Safeway, Walmart and FoodCity cards still work. Once again thank you very much for your generous support for this program.

 **Summer Vacation Reminder** – When you are on vacation the church is still ministering as usual. Please remember to keep your giving up to date either through advance planning or use our donation button on the website. Thank you.



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## A PRAYER FOR THE FOURTH

Loving God, we thank you – the true Father of our country – for the blessing of this land and the gifts of cultures around the world. Prompt us to strive for justice for all, at home and abroad. Remind us, in the words of the hymn, that “this is our Father’s world” and that your goodness prevails. Amid tragedies and conflicts, guard us against despair. Help us focus on the kindness evident daily: from generous neighbors to conscientious public servants (because most are). On Independence Day and every day, “O let [us] ne’er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.” Amen.

--Sandy Hyland

