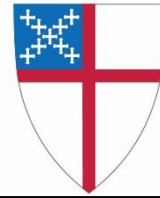




St. Stephen's Episcopal Church



March 2021

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Telephone: (520) 458-4432

From our Rector:

Greetings for a Reflective and Healing Season of Lent!

Dear friends,

As I write this, Bishop Reddall has just sent notice of our being able to go to Phase 2.5 in our churches. We will re-open Feb 27-28 in this new phase. It will be just like phase 2, but with the addition of being able to also hold Education classes and other activities in person. Everything must still be while using masks and social distancing for now. When we get to phase 3, we can make masks optional and we can sing and have food and fellowship again... hopefully later this summer???



I am as eager to begin a new normal as you are. The past year has been so challenging in so many ways... and I continue to have hope and joy that we will get through this and we will come out of this with renewed enthusiasm for loving God, for the love we have for each other, and for the joy of life and all its abundance.

Usually, we use Lent as a season of reflection and this year is no different in that respect. However, I invite us to not focus on the "giving up" of things this year... we gave up a lot this past year already. Rather, let us look at this season as a season to see what we lost and take the time to remember those people and things and grieve their passing or missing. It may be family members, friends, coworkers, or neighbors that we have lost. It may be something more in our character... the loss of patience, loss of politeness, loss of respect, loss of caring, loss of understanding, loss of compromise...

If we take the time to look at ourselves and ask the question, do I like the person I currently am? Or: does the person I currently am reflect the character of Jesus? And the answer to either of those questions is "no", then maybe we can examine ourselves and try to get closer to the kind of person God intends for us to be...

And come Easter morning, we will rejoice once more in the knowledge of the resurrection to new life and begin to see that same resurrection for our church and our faith life together.

Peace and healing be with you,

Rev. Allison



THANK YOU!

We thank Robin St. Clair and Jill Holsenbach for their dedication to St. Stephen's and God with their talent for sewing. During Advent we had the beautiful banners made by Robin and the altar frontal repaired by Jill for Christmas season. Our latest is the beautiful banners made by Jill for Lent.

You are a blessing!

From our Jr. Warden

March 20th, 9:00 to noon

It's Clean up time again! After a very long year, it's time to break out the old clothes and tools to refresh our church. For those with limited mobility there are plenty of light duty tasks to do inside our church and outside there are weeds and things obstructing our ground. Please join us for this very important fellowship!

All are welcome!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

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March 19th

Do you want to be baptized?

Next baptism date will be **Easter** morning. Please let Rev. Allison know if you or your child want to be baptized. There is a class for baptism needed ahead of the baptism date.



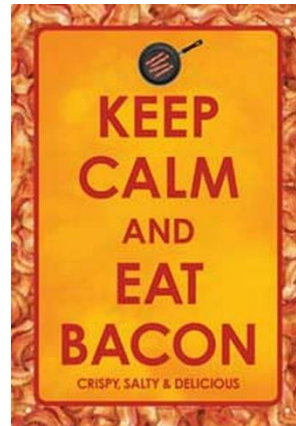
From the desk of the Treasurer

I apologize for the lateness of the everyone's tax statement.

This is due to the accounting program changed over from Quick Books to Church Windows.

We are currently working on updating the program to accommodate our contribution recording.

Your statement has been sent.



Men's Prayer Breakfast

We are looking to meet on the 3rd Saturday morning of the month. Masks and social distancing required.

For breakfast, prayer, and fellowship.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Ed Stone chedstone@yahoo.com

Bible Study

Every Tuesday at 5pm join in Zoom for an in-depth review of the Psalms.

We use several interpretations for a lively discussion.

The zoom link is: 811-888-8197.

From our Administrator Mark

Please notify the church office when you move or change phone or emails. If you change your email, please update your sign-on with our website prior to shutting down the old email.

Our office hours have really changed, but with Covid-19 impacts, they have been very flexible.

Standard hours are:

Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am to 2:00pm

Wednesday 11:00am to 2:00pm.

Where to sign up for a Covid-19 vaccine?

Please see the following link which has information for residents of Cochise County:

<https://covid-cochisehealth.hub.arcgis.com/pages/vaccines>

If you need help with registering for a vaccine, our church will help you. Currently only 65 and older plus those in certain priority groups like healthcare workers and teachers are being registered (groups 1A and 1B priority).

Episcopal Diocese of Arizona helping churches get solar power panels.

Rev. Allison attended a zoom meeting with the Rev Canon Pam Hyde from the diocese on Tuesday to hear plans for AZ churches to be able to install solar panels at their churches. The diocese is doing the initial work to find the best deal on installers, find suitable financing, and provide a no-obligation on-site assessment for each church to determine best location for panels. St. Stephen's is looking for a few individuals to be the church "Solar Team" for this effort. Jr. Warden Sherry Simon has already agreed to be part of this team. The team will coordinate with the diocese for the site visit and will present the information about this plan to the vestry/church when completed.

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday March 28th 10:30am.

Maundy Thursday April 1st 6pm.

Good Friday April 2nd 6pm (outdoor service).

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service (outdoor service) 6am.

All services will be broadcast and in person.

Sunday Lenten Reflection
Episcopal Relief and Development
Devotions

Starting Feb. 21st, Rev. Allison will facilitate an online discussion of the ERD Lenten readings of the previous week. To attend the discussion, use the following Zoom link: Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86935184063?pwd=M0ZhWEc3NEVRVncvQUY5VjZSa2hIU09>

Meeting ID: 869 3518 4063

Passcode: 923037

Or Dial in by your location:

[+1 346 248 7799](tel:+13462487799) US (Houston)

[+1 669 900 6833](tel:+16699006833) US (San Jose)

Lenten devotional
readings available online

Rev. Allison recommends two free online devotionals for Lent 2021:

Episcopal Relief and Development Lenten Devotional (<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Lent-2021-English-Color.pdf>)

or

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Lenten Devotional

(<https://www.pts.edu/UserFiles/File/PDFs/Lent%20Devotional%202021/Lent%20Devotional%202021%20-%20Print.pdf>).

Call the office to request a printed copy.

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
Holy Week Services:**

- 28 March – Palm Sunday, featuring a dramatic reading of the Passion of Christ according to Mark.
- 1 April – Maundy Thursday, featuring “What the Water Saw”: a testimony of waters from Jesus’ baptism, the woman at the well, the storm on the sea of Galilee, the foot washing, Pilate washes his hands of guilt at Jesus’ trial, rains falling on the crucified Jesus, and a modern-day baptism. Foot washing using protocols. Communion. Stripping of the altar.
- 1-2 April – Prayer vigil with Jesus – volunteer for an hour (or more) to pray through the night as Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane.
- 2 April – Good Friday (outdoor service) with stations of the cross culminating at our three crosses on the corner, Jesus (last of the reserved sacrament) is placed in the tomb.
- 4 April – Easter Sunrise Service (outdoor) anticipatory and joyful service with singing and celebrating the resurrection of Christ, the empty tomb.

Services online at www.ststephensaz.org or in person at 2750 Cardinal Dr., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635. In person require masks, social distancing, and sanitizing hands.

Ministry Team Schedules for March

MINISTRY TEAMS FOR MARCH

Wednesdays 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th
LEM, Lector, Altar Guild – Dottie

Saturday 6th		
LEM - Jeff	Lector – Sandra Calhoun	Altar Guild – Jill
Saturday 13th		
LEM - Tim	Lector – Sherry Simon	Altar Guild – Jill
Saturday 20th		
LEM - MJ	Lector – Sandra Calhoun	Altar Guild – Jill
Saturday 27th		
LEM – Jeff	Lector – Sherry Calhoun	Altar Guild – Jill

Sunday 7th		
LEM - Dottie	Lector – Sandy D.	Altar Guild – Deb
Sunday 14th		
LEM – MJ?	Lector – Charles	Altar Guild – Dottie
Sunday 21st		
LEM - Nancy	Lector – MJ	Altar Guild – Cheryl
Sunday 28th		
LEM - Dottie	Lector – Special readers	Altar Guild – Dottie

Ministry Team for Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, April 1st
LEM – Cheryl **Lector – Nancy**
All Altar Guild – Ed, Deb, Cheryl, Dottie, Jill

Good Friday, April 2nd
LEM – Nancy **Lector – Sherry**
Altar Guild - Dottie

Easter Sunday, April 4th 6:00am
LEM – Tim **Lector – Cheryl**
Altar Guild – Ed and Jill

FIRST NAME ONLY

PRAYER NEED

Names will be added for next month's newsletter.

Complete recovery for all our members, friends, co-workers, or neighbors who have had or have COVID, their families and friends.

For all medical personnel, first response personnel, front line workers, and essential employees All our military & their families

March						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 E/M 5:30 pm via Zoom	2	3	4	5	6 5:00 pm Worship
7 10:00 am Choir 10:30 am Worship	8 E/M 5:30 pm via Zoom	9	10	11	12	13 5:00 pm Worship
14 10:00 am Choir 10:30 am Worship	15 E/M 5:30 pm via Zoom	16	17	18	19 New sletter Articles Due	20 5:00 pm Worship 1st Day of Spring 9 am Parish Work Day
21 10:00 am Choir 10:30 am Worship	22 E/M 5:30 pm via Zoom	23	24	25	26	27 5:00 pm Worship
28 10:00 am Choir 10:30 am Worship Palm Sunday	29 Holy Week No E/M	30	31			