

St Stephen's Announcements Oct 7 – 13 2021

- **New Program for giving in Sierra Vista** – Better Bucks: A way to help those in need through donations or purchase of Better Bucks Booklets to give to others. Can be used around town at various places for only authorized items (excluded are alcohol, tobacco, combustibles like lighter fluid, etc...). See website: <https://betterbuckssierravista.org/>
- **Arizona Diocesan Convention Info** – Oct 9th 10am to 2pm online on zoom for business part of our convention. Church wardens, clergy, and delegates should sign on for this part of convention. See Rev. Allison for the zoom info. Oct 15-16th Keynote speaker The Very Reverend Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of Arizona to give an address and to preach at worship. **Keynote presentation Friday Oct 15 at 4pm, worship service with Rev. Curry preaching on Saturday Oct 16 at 10am. View both keynote presentation and worship at the diocesan youtube page: <https://www.youtube.com/c/azdiocese1>**
- **Sunday Worship time will change Nov 7th to 11am start time.**
- **St. Stephen's and Sierra Lutheran (ELCA) to begin joined ministry with St. Raphael's Benson** – Starting in November, St. Stephen's along with Sierra Lutheran Church will assist with worship and other ministries at St. Raphael's in the Valley, Benson. St. Raphael's is a combined Lutheran and Episcopal congregation and as their current Vicar leaves for new ministry opportunities, Bishop Reddall and Bishop Hutterer (ELCA) have asked for our two churches to minister together with St. Raphael's. Rev. Allison will lead worship alternatingly with the Sierra Lutheran church on Sundays, and she will have office hours in Benson on Tuesdays. Rev. Allison's office hours at St. Stephen's will be Wed, Thurs, Friday. This arrangement will be for a year and then we will assess how it is going.
- **We need a new church treasurer!** STILL! Please help.
- **Our Groceries 4U program depends on donations from you, our congregation.** We provide grocery gift cards to people in our community in need of a little assistance to buy groceries. If you can, please put a donation in the plate to allow us to buy more cards. Thank you.
- **Coffee Hour helpers wanted.** Our coffee hour is moving back to the porch and will be simplified. We would appreciate folks helping with the set up of the coffee hour and clean up after on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the snack table at church. Please sign up for a weekend or two.
- **Our Adult Forum on Jesus and the Buddha continues Oct. 9th and 10th. Will not meet Oct 16/17.**
- **October 10th, Sunday, at 5pm St. Stephen's will hold a service of welcome and acceptance in observation of the National Coming Out Day for LGBTQ persons** to celebrate the amazing persons that God created them to be and to allow anyone who feels ready to do so to tell God, their family and friends, and themselves that they are part of the LGBTQ community.
- **October 31st: All Saints/All Souls** – Remembering those we lost during the past 20 months of Covid shutdown. We will gather to have a combined remembrance of those who died during the past year and half, honoring especially Bonnie Anderson, Ralph Snapp, and Agnes Quain.
- **November 6th – LGBTQ Pride in Phoenix!** St. Stephen's has entered to have one car and several walkers at the parade on Saturday Nov. 6th. We can carry signs, flags, and banners to show there are welcoming and inviting churches for LGBTQ. Please see Rev. Allison to carpool up and back to Phoenix that day.
- **Saturday worshipers: We are Re-using the Bulletins on Sunday.** Please leave your gently use bulletin on the back table. Thanks 😊!