

St Stephen's Announcements Dec 8-14 2022

- **Covid infection rates are high in Cochise County** – You are encouraged to wear a mask indoors at church especially if you feel vulnerable to the Covid/Flu/RSV viruses. If you feel it is necessary also, please social distance yourself from others along the back and sides of the church.
- **Christmas Bundles for Border Kids – December 15th** is the deadline for getting your bags filled and returned to the church. If you want to do more than one, extras are available on the porch. Filled bags go on the floor, bags to take to fill are on the table.
- **Giving Envelopes for 2023 are in.** Pick up yours in the church Parish Hall. Please see Mark to get a set if you don't find any with your name on them.
- **Christmas Bonus for staff** – Each year we ask for you to help us show some appreciation for our Accompanist Doreen, Sexton Deborah, and Parish Administrator with a donation to the employee purse. These folks work hard for us to be able to enjoy our church and its services. Please indicate on your check or cash envelope “employee purse”. Donations will be shared among our staff at Annual Meeting.
- **Advent Devotional Discussions Fridays in December at 9:30am in Parish Hall** – We have Advent devotional booklets for everyone and the theme for this year's Advent is “Practicing Simplicity”. Advent discussions open to everyone will be on Saturday mornings at 9am with coffee and donuts/snacks.
- **Christmas Party!** - Bruce Hardt has offered to host a Christmas party at his home in Hereford this year. It will begin Sunday afternoon at 2pm and go until 5pm on December 18th. Bring your own beverage and some appetizers/finger foods to share. Sign up for appetizers in Parish Hall. Wear Red and Green to make the day festive! **Bruce's address is: 6920 S. Rainbow Vista Lane, Hereford, AZ.**

Directions>>>>>



- **December 24th Christmas Eve Service 5pm & 25th Christmas Day Service 10am** – Celebrate once again with joy the coming of Jesus into our world, the Messiah, King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Christmas day service come in pajamas (if you want) and stay for light brunch of egg casserole, potatoes, fruit, pastry.
- **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED BETWEEN DEC 25-JAN 2:** You can still reach us for emergency needs via phone voice mail, email, or texts. No regular office hours during this week.
- **Next Singalong Dec 30 at 6pm to 7pm in Ed Bldg** – Christmas begins with Christmas Eve/Day so we will have a Christmas song singalong (some of those favorites that we don't necessarily sing in church). Bring a friend and have some fun singing our seasonal favorites.
- **Dec 31st 5pm New Year's Eve service and Jan 1st 11am New Year's Day service** – Be sure to have your blackeyed peas, greens, and cornbread to bless the new year!
- **First Friday Film Night January 6th at 5pm** – We will watch “Imagine”, the life story behind lead singer of Mercy Me, leading up to his composing the song “I can only imagine” to honor his once estranged and abusive father. Light supper of soup is offered. Bring your own beverage. All are welcome! Bring a friend!
- **Second Saturday St. Stephen's Supper group will meet Saturday January 14th 6:30pm** – We are going to Vinny's Pizza, 1977 Frontage Rd, Sierra Vista, AZ. Menu: <https://mhme.nu/design/92161340-d32c-472a-ac94-e61e411d9b58?create=true>. Let's get tables near the pool table and play a game or two of pool! All are welcome, invite your friends.
- **Annual Meeting Saturday January 21st 3pm in Ed Bldg with Chili potluck early dinner** – Everyone is encouraged to come and attend the annual meeting to review the 2023 budget, elect new members of the vestry, and thank all our ministry folks for their time and talent in the preceding year. We will need two new folks to be on vestry as Andy Anderson rotates off and we did not fill the other vestry vacancy last year. Please see Rev. Allison if you are interested in serving on the vestry for a two-year term.
- **Clergy retreat Jan 24-26** – Rev. Allison and Deacon Dottie will be away at clergy retreat in Prescott at Chapel Rock.