

St Stephen's Announcements Jan 5-11 2023

- **Happy New Year!** Keep our church in prayer for a blessed year of togetherness and the spreading God's love and welcome to all.
- **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.
- **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!
- **Wednesday 11th January: Epiphany Blessing of our Church as part of our Wednesday worship service.** Like a house blessing, we will go from room to room, offering prayers to welcome God's blessing and to dispel any negativity from our premises. All are welcome to participate in this special service.
- **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.
- **Ministry Reports for the Annual Meeting are Due to Mark Sowards by NLT Jan 17th.** If you are leader/facilitator of a ministry area, please send your report to Mark with info about how last year's ministry was conducted and expectations for the coming year.
- **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.
- **Diocesan Clergy Retreat** – Rev. Allison and Rev. Dottie will be away Jan 24-26th at Camp Chapel Rock in Prescott.
- **Silly Singalong Session** – Friday Jan 27th at 6pm in the Ed Bldg. We will be singing theme songs from TV shows! Gilligan's Island, Brady Bunch, Addam's Family, and more! Email Rev. Allison (revallison@ststephensaz.org) with your favorites and we will put them on the list. Join us and bring a friend for the singalong night!
- **Announcing Facilities Updates coming in February:**
 - New Church Floors – Feb 20-28 we will meet in the Ed Bldg for worship as our church will be removing the old floor and getting new flooring installed. We will be back in the church for worship Wed March 1st.
 - Parking Lot resurfacing – Date TBD. The church parking lot will not be available for a few days while we have cracks filled and the surface resealed and repainted. More info as it happens.
- **NEED HELP MOVING CHAIRS and PEWS on SUNDAY Feb 19th 3pm** – Meet in Church to move pews and chairs out of the church for new floor install.
- **The new flooring and parking lot will be a sizable investment in the future of our church.** We have received anonymous donations for part of this work, we have savings in the building maintenance fund for part of the work. We would also like your donations to offset the cost and allow us to keep a reasonable reserve for emergency needs in building maintenance. Please give online, check, or cash with the notation that it is for facilities upgrades.