

## St Stephen's Announcements Nov 16-22 2023

### Prayer for Thanksgiving Day:

Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

- **Thanksgiving Day Worship and Dinner** – Join us for a time to express our thanks to God for all the blessings we enjoy on Thanksgiving morning, Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10am. We will then have a full Thanksgiving dinner to follow in the Parish Hall. Sign up in parish hall to bring a dish to share and let us know how many will be attending.
- **Nancy Rea and her realtor group are hosting a movie night Sunday Nov 19<sup>th</sup> 6pm at the Rothery Educational Center.** The movie is “Pay it Forward.” Free with popcorn and candy.
- **UTO Blue Boxes available with info on what the United Thank Offering is and prompts for November for giving thanks for the many blessings we enjoy.** Please pick up on the back table in the church. We will gather the boxes on Thanksgiving Day and the weekend following.
- **Coats for Kids** - to help those in the rural areas of Cochise County. Please donate new or gently used clean coats by placing them in the big blue box on the church porch. Coats are collected weekly through the first week of December and will taken to the rural towns in Cochise for kids who need them.
- **12 Steps for Christians meets on Wednesdays at 5pm in the Parish Hall.** We are finishing up reading and sharing about “The Spirituality of Imperfection” and will be starting a new book soon: “Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life” by Karen Armstrong. Copies available starting October 25<sup>th</sup> from Rev. Allison.
- **Pledge cards should please be returned by end of November. Thank you.**
- **Advent Begins December 2-3:** Advent devotional books to use in your daily prayers will be available at the end of November. Sat and Sun adult forum will discuss the weekly reflections and share our own thoughts.
- **Community Christmas Concert** – Dec 1-2, Friday and Saturday at the United Methodist Church doors open 6:30pm. Come hear three of our community choruses as they present a variety of Christmas themed choral pieces to celebrate the season. Tickets are \$10 in advance or at the door. Free will offering to support the Warrior Healing Center which assist veterans with the help they need.
- **Please continue to drop off your aluminum cans and pull tabs** – We will continue to take to Animal Shelter to donate for them.
- **Christmas worship services:** This year 4<sup>th</sup> Advent falls on the same Sunday as Christmas Eve. We will have 4<sup>th</sup> Advent on Saturday Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm but no Sunday morning worship on Dec 24<sup>th</sup>. We will have Christmas Eve service on Sunday Dec 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. We will also have a Christmas Day service on Monday Dec 25<sup>th</sup> at 10am with a short brunch to follow in the Parish Hall.
- **The Church Office will be closed between Christmas and New Years Day.** You can still call and leave a message or send an email if you have an urgent need to contact Rev. Allison or the church office. We will be monitoring those communications in case of emergency. After hours (7pm to 7am), please call Rev. Allison at her home number: 520-335-2436.

# Thy Word

*Refrain* Eb Bb/D Eb

Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet and a

light un-to my path. *Fine* Bb Fm

1 When I feel a-fraid,  
2 I will not for-get Your

Cm Gm Ab Bb Ab/Eb Eb

1 I think I've lost my way, still You're there right be-side me. And  
2 love for me, and yet my heart for - ev - er is wan - der-ing.

Bb Fm Cm Gm

1 noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.  
2 Je - sus be my guide and hold me to Your side, And

Ab Bb Bb/C C Fm Bb9 D.C.

1 Please be near me to the end.  
2 I will love You to the end.

Words and Music: Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith;

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