

St Stephen's Announcements Oct 3 – Oct 9 2024

- **Donations for Hurricane Helene relief** – The gratitude basket collection for the Rector's Discretionary will be sent to the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund during October to assist people who have suffered losses due to the storm and flooding. Please consider putting a little something in the basket as a show of your gratitude and your blessing will become someone else's blessing.
- **Birthday Sunday – Sunday Oct 6th**: Pumpkin Spice Cake! Come celebrate our October birthdays 11:00am after worship on Sunday.
- **October Newsletter now available** – See table at back of church or online for your copy.
- **Forward Day by Day booklets for Nov, Dec, Jan** – On the table inside the church. Pick up your copy for your daily devotions.
- **October thru Nov 3rd - Special prayers for our nation, election process, and elected officials** to ask God's Spirit to guide, protect, and inspire peace among us as we conclude the election cycle.
- **Rev. Canon Anita Braden Oct 27th and the "Day of Discovery"**. Come hear Rev. Canon Anita preach and preside over worship at 10 am then join with the church for a Potluck lunch at 11:30 and discussion at 12 noon about next chapter in the life of St. Stephen's. ***The whole congregation is encouraged to attend and participate in discussion.*** Potluck and discussion in the Ed Bldg.
- **Looking for a Treasurer Assistant** – Anne Roth has been serving as our treasurer for about 4 years and would like to train someone to take her place. Primary duties are to create checks to pay our bills, work with our bookkeeper, and prepare an annual budget (with vestry and bookkeeper) and annual report for the Diocese (fill in form sent by Diocese).
- **First Friday Film Night – October 4th 5:30pm**. We will be watching the comedy "Zorro the Gay Blade." Meet in the Parish Hall. Soup and bread for supper. Bring your own beverage and invite a friend.
- **National Coming Out Day for LGBTQ Friday Oct 11th 5:30 pm** – We will be showing the movie "In and Out" a romantic comedy about a midwestern teacher who questions his sexuality after a former student makes a comment about him being gay at the Academy Awards. Tom Selleck and Kevin Kline star. Popcorn/snacks provided.
- **Second Saturday Supper – October 12th 6:30pm**, we will meet at Orient Express for our fellowship dinner. Situated at 391 E Fry Blvd, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 menu link: <https://www.orientexpressaz.com/4qp14s97/orient-express-sierra-vista-85635/order-online#menu> . Invite a friend and join us.
- **Save the Date: Sunday October 13th 12pm to 3pm** House Blessing at Mark Sowards' and Nick's house. Come help bless and fill the house with goodness and prayers. Bring an appetizer to share. **Address: 4626 Natoma Trail, Sierra Vista, AZ 85650**
- **Vestry Meeting October 15th, 5:30pm in Parish Hall** - Anyone who has something to bring to the vestry is asked to see Wilma to add to the agenda. Anyone can attend vestry to see how the administration of the church business occurs.
- **Monthly Art and Meditation Hour – October 16th at 11am (monthly the 3rd Wed at 11am)** join us for a quiet reflective time to engage in your preferred creative endeavor ... needlepoint, cross-stitch, drawing, coloring, painting, zen-tangles, writing... We will spend the first 15 minutes in silence allowing ourselves to move into a more meditative place... after the 15 minutes, we can continue in silence or share quiet observations with one another. Bring your crafting items and see where your spirit takes you.
- **Diocesan Convention – Saturday Oct 19 at St. Philips in the Hills Tucson. All are invited to come and see and participate in the worship and business of the diocese.**
- **Sunday October 20th – SUNDAY WORSHIP IN THE PARK OUTDOORS WITH PICNIC POTLUCK TO FOLLOW.** We have been invited to join together with our friends from Sierra Lutheran Evangelical Church for Sunday morning worship outside at Veteran's Park and then share in a time of fellowship and food afterwards. Our last parish picnic at the park was 2019 so this will be an opportunity for fun and friend-making with our ELCA Lutherans. No Sunday worship at church on this day. More info to follow.

Coming Up:

- **Stewardship Campaign** – November 1-30th. Looking for a couple of people to assist Anne Roth with this year's campaign theme and letter.



Dear Siblings in Christ-

We have all seen the devastation wrought by Hurricane Helene on the news. Episcopal churches and members have been similarly affected across multiple dioceses, perhaps most grievously in the Diocese of Western North Carolina, but in many areas stretching from Florida to Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

Episcopal Relief and Development is the disaster relief entity serving the Episcopal Church when natural disasters take place. They work through local communities and churches to provide supplies, housing, and immediate relief, and they stay and support them through the rebuilding process. I have heard from the bishops of affected dioceses asking us to contribute through them.

So please consider joining me in contributing directly at www.episcopalrelief.org.

Those of us who have survived disasters, natural or human-caused, and who had a long recovery period know that in addition to funds, having teams of volunteers who assist with the work over the long haul is a huge support. If you might be interested in going to the affected areas and helping in person, and have the capacity to do so, please indicate your interest here:

<https://forms.gle/UQ7T5WFWqong2qwV8>

Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of those who ask in thy Son's Name: We beseech thee mercifully to incline thine ear to us who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant that those things which we have asked faithfully according to thy will may be obtained effectually, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In Peace and Gratitude,
+Jennifer



Episcopal
Relief & Development
Working Together for Lasting Change

Active Links... www.episcopalrelief.org

[Http://forms.gle/UQ7T5WFWqong2qwV8](https://forms.gle/UQ7T5WFWqong2qwV8)