

St Stephen's Announcements Dec 19th 2024 – January 1st 2025

- **HELP SUPPORT A LOCAL FAMILY FOR XMAS** – Thank you for all who are shopping for our family to help this year. Please return all wrapped gifts to the Parish Hall by Sunday Dec 22nd noon. We will deliver them to the family on Monday Dec 23rd.
- **CHRISTMAS Bonus for our staff:** Mark our Parish Administrator, Doreen our accompanist, Debra our cleaning person, and Pam our bookkeeper receive a Christmas bonus each year to show our appreciation for the work they do for our church. Please give a donation towards the employee purse for their Christmas bonus.
- **Messiah Sing Dec 22nd at 7pm at St. Andrew's Catholic Church.** Free/Open to the public.
- **Dec 24 Christmas Eve 5pm service and Dec 25 Christmas Day 10am service with light brunch following.**
- **Church office will be closed between Christmas Day and New Year's Day** as the staff take this time off during the holidays. Worship will continue on Sat Dec 28th and Sun 29th.
- **NO WEDNESDAY WORSHIP on Dec 25th or Jan 1st.**
- **Looking for a Treasurer Assistant** – 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). See Rev. Allison.
- **Calling for new vestry members** – We have openings for three new vestry members to serve a two-year term (two at-large members and one to be Clerk of the Vestry). Vestry members meet to discuss and make decisions for the church as leadership of the church. Meetings are once a month for about 1.5 hours each meeting.

Coming in January:

- **Birthday Sunday** – Sunday January 5th – Vanilla Raspberry Poke Cake! Come celebrate our January birthdays 11:00am after worship on Sunday.
- **First Friday Film Night** – January 3rd 5:30pm Church Parish Hall. In honor of Martin Luther King Jr this month, we will watch the movie "Selma" - A chronicle of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1965. Soup supper for dinner provided. Join us and bring a friend! RSVP with Rev. Allison.
- **Supporting survivors of suicide – Saturday January 11th in the Parish Hall 10am to 12 noon:** St. Stephen's is hosting a guest speaker who will discuss ways to support people who have had a suicide of someone close to them. Explore your individual beliefs and attitudes about suicide, the importance of the words we use, how death by suicide creates more complex grief, and helpful ways you can learn to support those grieving. See Deacon Dottie for RSVP or more information.
- **January 11th St. Paul's Tombstone** – Installation of The Rev. Keith Saare as Vicar of St. Paul's. Time is TBD for now.
- **Third Wednesday Art and Meditation Hour – Jan 15th 11am to noon.** Bring your art/craft project to work on while we have a quiet time of reflection and calm in the midst of our Xmas season. Let your mind be at peace and listen for God's still small voice.
- **Annual Meeting of the Church** – January 19th at 11:15am with Pizza ordered in for lunch. Let us know your preferred pizza flavor/toppings. All members are encouraged to attend for vestry elections, state of the Church address, and presentation of the 2025 budget.
- **Sherry Simon is getting ordained to the Holy Order of Deacons January 25th in Phoenix at the Trinity Cathedral.** Anyone who wants to go, we will carpool up for the service and reception to follow.
- **New Vestry Retreat** – January 31st - Feb 1st in Parish Hall.

Coming this Spring:

- **Women of the New Testament Bible Study in the Parish Hall 10am to 11am Saturdays starting March 8th to May 31st** led by Deacon Dottie. Study materials provided. Please see Deacon Dottie to sign up for this study and reserve your booklet.