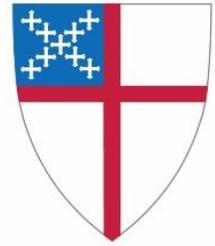




*St. Stephen's  
Episcopal Church  
Newsletter  
March 2026*



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*From Our Reverend Deacon Dottie*

March is a busy month. Besides being full of the weeks of Lent, there is so much else going on. March 8th begins Daylight Savings Time – which for us in Arizona means our families in the East and Midwest will be 3 hours ahead of us in time. That gets confusing when trying to call them (what time did you say it is there????). The flower of the month is the Daffodil. But you know what? All those lovely little orange and yellow flowers along the sidewalk have been blooming for weeks already and are so delightful.

Pretty soon, St Patrick's Day will arrive, March 17<sup>th</sup>, with corned beef and cabbage suppers all over town. The Irish in Ireland do not really make it. There they eat pork or bacon and potatoes. During the 19th century, the Irish American immigrants could not afford the pork, so the Jewish delicatessens around New York and other areas offered them Corned Beef and Cabbage. To this day, it is the chosen specialty of the day. Also, many honor the Irish heritage with parades through cities and towns.

The spring/summer solstice is on March 20<sup>th</sup> and celebrates the beginning of spring. AND THEN, little more than a week later PALM SUNDAY AND THE BEGINNING OF HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY.

It is a month of many other lesser feasts, too many to go into here, but watching for the budding out of trees and enjoying the warmer, longer daylight hours is celebration enough. Although watching my little Shamrock plant bloom over and over for the last few weeks has brought the early touch of spring indoors for me—despite some very windy March like days.

Happy Pi Day too!

Reverend Dottie Gutwein, Deacon

## *From Our Bishop's Warden*



Hello Friends! I am your new Bishop's Warden (formerly known as Senior Warden) elected at the Annual Meeting in January. My goal is to increase transparency and communication with everyone in our Mission (formerly Parish). In order to do that I need your help by you making an effort to read the Bishop's Committee's Minutes (formerly known as the Vestry) [don't we have a bunch of antiquated words for our board of directors?] and letting me know your thoughts and suggestions so I can add them to the monthly meeting Agenda. The minutes are posted on a clipboard in the Parish Hall NLT than the second Sunday of the month. This is YOUR Church. I want to hear from you about your concerns and kudos.

Thank you for all you do... especially by your faithful attendance.

Nancy Rea  
Bishop's Warden

## *From our Treasurer*



The church would not survive without the quiet volunteers who do the quiet work in the shadows. This month one of our counters from the Teller Team retired, and so we took the tellers out for lunch. Harriet Kolen enjoyed the counting, partnered with Robin St. Clair who did the computer work. But her eyes have weakened, and it is hard to see the tiny numbers any more. She's 96. She was sorry to stop.

Those of you who still have a little time, a little energy, a possible half-hour after services on Sunday, please let us know if you are willing to learn the Teller database or be a back-up counter. The more pairs we have, the less often any of us have to do the work. Talk to Nancy Rea or to me. If Sunday isn't good for you, arrangements can be made to do the count another time.

### **Jr. Warden/Property Team Report**

Meeting of January 30 with Tim Holsonback, Tim Ash, and Pete Criscuolo allowed us to find the beginning of a plan for the property. With 4 acres of land, half of it wild, there are things to be addressed. Dan Torres, The Yardchitect, joined us and was able to answer questions. He is a young landscaper who has done work for us. He will prune the hedge on the west end of the Ed building for half price. He and I visited the "ditch" – the drainage basin at the end of our parking lot – and he will work up an estimate for lopping the overgrown brush, spraying with herbicide to kill seeds, and leave the roots to anchor the dirt walls. He offered us an estimate for pre-emergent/herbicide for the whole property, but it will leave the dirt bare. To be followed up.

We agreed that we need a map of the property and a plan to work forward. Tim Ash found the Google Earth map, but it is out of date. Dan suggested USDA Soil Survey map online. Nancy sent a land use map from the county/city that gives us a beginning.

They have agreed to let me be the "voice" to the Vestry/Bp's Committee, and they will continue to do the work for us. We have received the insurance money for the sign out front. More work to be done on that.

- Thanks to Dan Torres for pruning the hedge and exposing the fire meters.
- Thanks again to Dan for clearing out the drainage basin.
- Thanks to Bill Roth for putting in solar lighting along the drive to the upper lot.
- Thanks to Tim H for co-signing checks.
- Thanks to Pete C for helping me sort out the signage contracts so far.
- Thanks to Daniel Garcia for the repair of the garden wall in front of the septic tanks.
- Thanks to First American Septic Systems for the clean out [first time since they were installed.]

Also invited Gretchen Lamberth onto this committee, and she said Yes.

Anne Roth, Treasurer.

## Notices and Upcoming Events

**Friday evenings during Lent** – Stations of the Cross – 6pm in church.

**Saturday mornings at 10am, Lenten Study of the Saints.**

**March 8<sup>th</sup> – Birthday Sunday** – Please note that Birthday Sunday will now be celebrated on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

**March 14<sup>th</sup> 6.30pm – Second Saturday Supper.** Venue to be arranged.

**Thank you to everyone** for the ongoing donations of (clean) crushed aluminum cans and separated pull tabs. They will be donated to the Animal Shelter. Thank you also for your donations to Huachuca City UMC of dry laundry sheets or laundry powder in Ziplock bags and other personal care items, to assist the needy in our area.

We are still collecting no-longer needed pairs of eye glasses and their cases. We donate them to the local Lion's Club. Please drop them in the box located on the refreshment table in the Parish Hall.

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## March 2026 Lay Ministry Teams Schedule

***NOTE: If you are unable to serve at the appointed time and day, you are responsible for finding a replacement. Please notify Rev Deacon Sherry or Rev Deacon Dottie of substitutions and record substitution on the document posted in the sacristy***

<b>Saturday March 7th</b>		
LEM - Tim Holsonback	Lector – Sandra Calhoun	Altar Guild – Deacon or LEM
<b>Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup></b>		
LEM – Tim Holsonback	Lector – Sandra Calhoun	Altar Guild – Deacon or LEM
<b>Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup></b>		
LEM – Tim Holsonback	Lector – Sandra Calhoun	Altar Guild – Deacon or LEM
<b>Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup></b>		
LEM – Tim Holsonback	Lector – Sandra Calhoun	Altar Guild – Deacon or LEM
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<b>Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup></b>		
LEM – Nancy Rea	Lector – Anne Roth	Altar Guild – Deacon or LEM
<b>Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>BIRTHDAY SUNDAY</b>	
LEM – Renee	Lector – Sharon Lake	Altar Guild – Deacon or LEM
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>		
LEM – Nancy Rea	Lector – Ann Crandall	Altar Guild - Deacon or LEM
<b>Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>		
LEM – Renee Olejnicak	Lector – Nancy Rea	Altar Guild – Deacon or LEM
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup></b>		
LEM - Nancy Rea	Lector – Sharon Lake	Altar Guild – Deacon or LEM

# March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10.00 am Choral Service with Holy Communion (Live Stream)	2 Bible Study 3 pm Via Zoom	3	4 9.30 am Holy Eucharist and Healing Prayers	5	6 6.00 pm Stations of the Cross	7 5.00 pm Spoken Service with Holy Communion
8 10.00 am Choral Service with Holy Communion (Live Stream)	9 Bible Study 3 pm Via Zoom	10	11 9.30 am Holy Eucharist and Healing Prayers	12	13 6.00 pm Stations of the Cross	14 5.00 pm Service Followed by <b>Supper at TBD</b> 6.30 pm
15 10.00 am Choral Service with Holy Communion (Live Stream)	16 Bible Study 3 pm Via Zoom	17	18 9.30 am Holy Eucharist and Healing Prayers	19	20 6.00 pm Stations of the Cross	21 5.00 pm Spoken Service with Holy Communion
22 10.00 am Choral Service with Holy Communion (Live Stream)	23 Bible Study 3 pm Via Zoom	24 <b>Newsletter Articles Due For April Issue</b>	25 9.30 am Holy Eucharist and Healing Prayers	26	27 6.00 pm Stations of the Cross	28 5.00 pm Spoken Service with Holy Communion
29 10.00 am Choral Service with Holy Communion (Live Stream)	30 Bible Study 3 pm Via Zoom	31				

**Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>** will be “**BIRTHDAY SUNDAY**” celebrating everyone who has a birthday in the month of March. There will be cake for all to enjoy.



**Eden Kulp**

**March 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Judith Davies**

**March 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Diane Yancey**

**March 31<sup>st</sup>**

## Prayer Requests

If you would like our readers to pray for you or someone you know that is in need of extra prayers for healing or whatever is troubling them, please reach out to us at St. Stephen's Church.

Lord, we ask you to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in sickness, or any other adversity. Open their hearts to know your love and feel your presence.

We pray for:

Doris Millard (on going at Via Elegante for comfort and peace)  
Alverita Egbert (For healing and God's continuing blessings)  
Jerry and Susan Fine (Continuing prayers for healing and peace)  
Bill and Mindy Saunders (For continue prayers of healing for both)  
Deacon Robin Hollis (Recovering at home)  
Pat Wick's niece Morganna and her family (Prayers for healing)  
Martin McKinley (For the repose of his soul, may he rest in peace)

We pray also for:

\*All who have been affected by unreasonable violence, weather, and struggling to make ends meet/care for self and families worldwide.

\*St Stephen's Church Search Committee, that they will soon be interviewing prospects for our new Vicar Position.

\*Thanksgiving for our newest Bishops Committee members, Sharon Lake and our new Senior Warden, Nancy Rea.

To submit an article or update prayer requests, please contact the editor: [dianepyancey@gmail.com](mailto:dianepyancey@gmail.com)

NB. I had no idea that Pi had its own special day until I received Dottie's article for the Newsletter so I just had to look it up on Google!

**Pi Day** is an [annual celebration](#) of the [mathematical constant  \$\pi\$  \(pi\)](#). Pi Day is observed on [March 14](#) (the 3rd month) since 3, 1, and 4 are the first three [significant figures](#) of  $\pi$ , (which is an infinite number), and was first celebrated in the United States. It was founded in 1988 by [Larry Shaw](#), an employee of a [science museum](#) in [San Francisco](#), the [Exploratorium](#).

Celebrations often involve eating [pie](#) or holding [pi recitation](#) competitions. In 2009, the [United States House of Representatives](#) supported the designation of Pi Day.

You learn something new every day!!

How many of you will be celebrating Pi Day on March 14<sup>th</sup> and baking a special pie? If you do, please send me some photos and I'll copy them here. Send your recipe too!! Diane Yancey

