

St. Stephen's E-Scene

Electronic News of the Episcopal Church in Sierra Vista, Arizona

January 31, 2008

REPORT FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

60 enthusiastic St. Stephen's members gathered last Saturday evening to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, followed by the Annual Meeting. **Fr. Vic** began the meeting with "Reflections and Dreams," a positive overview of the State of the Parish as we continue the Year of St. Stephen:

Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Present, Building the Future

- ▶ St. Stephen's is on the move and we're growing.
- ▶ Attendance at worship services and participation in ministries/programs is up!
- ▶ Four new ministries (Newcomers, Communication Support, Young Adults, and Outreach to the Military) are in place and moving ahead.
- ▶ Plans for the new building by FSA Engineering have been submitted to the City of Sierra Vista, including improvement of parking and landscaping. When plans are approved by the City, we'll be ready to receive hard bids and move toward construction with – minimum fund raising – in the next eight months!!!
- ▶ A contract for organ restoration has been signed and contributions for that work are being received.
- ▶ Looking to the future, we'll establish a strategic planning group for anticipation of needs, study of ideas, and fulfillment of our dreams.

We're listening to God's plans for us, focusing on and responding to his call.

Fr. Vic announced that **Nancy Rae** had graciously agreed to serve a second year as Senior Warden, to a resounding ovation!; then moved on to introductions and thanks to staff members, Ministry Coordinators, retiring and returning Vestry members – to all who serve.

Before the 2008 budget was presented by retiring Parish Treasurer, **Greg Lamberth**, he was thanked for his long-time service to St. Stephen's with a gift in his name from the parish to his CANTER, a therapeutic riding ministry for the disabled.

Greg went on to present the 2008 Budget, showing a slight deficit of \$1,800, which the Senior Warden explained, asking for extra effort from each of us in overcoming that shortfall.

Fr. Vic told the congregation that **Carolyn Gates** had agreed to serve as Parish Treasurer, beginning in February, when she will be officially elected at the formation meeting of the new Vestry. Carolyn was welcomed with warm applause.

Following the balloting, results of the election were announced. **Jean Dearman** as new Junior Warden, together with husband **Henry** and **Dick Haines**, will look after St. Stephen's buildings and grounds – **Bob Boyer**, **Sandra Lee Hannsz**, and **Brian Smith** will serve three year terms on the Vestry – **Carolyn Gates**, **Dottie Gutwein**, **Jacque Kelly**, **Ron McCreery**, **Jeff Spear**, and **Dinah McCreery** will attend Diocesan Convention in October, with Fr. Vic, Senior and Junior Wardens.

Everyone stood, smiled, and said "cheese" for photos by **Valla Miller**, then went on to a delicious soup dinner, catered by **Henry Dearman**, **Alverita & Russ Egbert**, **Joan Strom**, **Doris Millard**, **Dee Walz**, **Pat Sabin**, and **Marlene Stearns** – served by our Youth of St. Stephen's with their leader **Tony Roselli**.

It was a grand evening of worship, parish business, and fellowship. Special thanks to Greeters **Tim & Jill Holsonback**, **Paula Jones**, to Tellers **Marlene Stearns** and **Karrol Lankford**, to all who helped make the Annual Meeting a success – and to **Fr. Vic** who is leading the way for St. Stephen's.

Honoring the Past – Celebrating the Present – Building the Future!

Bonnie Bosworth, Clerk of the Vestry

ASH WEDNESDAY is February 6th
Services at 6:00 a.m. – Noon – 7:00 p.m.

FIVE WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

Soup Supper & Program beginning at 6:00 p.m.
“OUR EPISCOPAL HERITAGE – SACRAMENTS & SPIRITUALITY”
February 13, 20, 27 – March 5 & 12
We can sign up now for supper and to assist with the menu!

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP SPAGHETTI DINNER

Saturday, February 23 - Beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Homemade Pasta with Gourmet Meatballs

\$5 individuals - \$12 families

COME SUPPORT OUR YOUTH OF ST. STEPHEN'S

FROM THE PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

Alverita Egbert heads for Nogales again on Thursday, February 7. Let's bring in lots of diapers, nutritional drinks, wipes, and more – those supplies needed by the staff for care of the little ones at St. Andrew's Children's Clinic – Your gifts may be placed in the basket at the back of the church. Thank you!

Deadline for articles to be published in *The Messenger* is 5:00 pm, the 15th of the month preceding publication. I know that's about as clear as mud, but for an article to be in the April-May-June issue, you need to have your article(s) to me no later than 5:00 pm on March 15. *We need articles, so write!!*
-- Johnny Lankford

FOR YOUR ADDRESS BOOK: Dick & Betty Nauman have moved...
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News of the Annual Meeting & More . . .