

Saint Stephen's E-Scene

Electronic News of the Episcopal Church in Sierra Vista, Arizona

March 29, 2007

ADULT FORUM meets at 9:00 a.m. in Fr. Vic's office each Sunday morning. The group will begin studying *An Open Heart: Practicing Compassion in Everyday Life* by the Dalai Lama. All are welcome, with books available in the office. Please join in for a lively discussion!!

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS: At their April meeting the Parish Vestry:

- ★ Received Ron McCreery's annual **Worship Ministry** report and resolved, "*Saint Stephen's Vestry, on behalf of the congregation, sends thanks and congratulations to all who took part in our Worship Ministry for their leadership during the interim year of 2006.*"
- ★ Heard Matthew Whitehouse' report on the condition of the pipe organ and authorized him to work with a committee on repair and maintenance of the organ.
- ★ Approved up-dates and reports from Ministry Coordinators;
 - **Journey to Adulthood** had received \$2,300 in "Challenge" donations at services earlier that morning;
 - **E.C.W.** had served lunch at the Salvation Army, and earned \$782 at their rummage sale;
 - Fr. Vic, Dottie Gutwein, and Catherine Foy are taking part in the new **Diocesan Program Groups**;
 - **Outreach Ministry** is reconsidering support for some agencies, and adding new outreach programs;
- ★ Marked calendars for the annual **Vestry/Ministry Coordinators Retreat** to be held April 20-21 at The Palms.
- ★ Heard that a new chapter of **Daughters of the King** has begun at Saint Stephen's, with a commitment ceremony by new members planned for Sunday, May 6.
- ★ Fr. Vic announced: **"We have launched St. Stephen's NEW WEB SITE. In addition to the general information that was previously posted on the web, we have added some exciting new elements. Along with *The Rector's Blog*, there will be posting and archiving of our regular newsletter *E-Scene*. We have also added a current events/announcements page and will continue to add information about our programs and life together.**
" My personal hope is that this new site can be both a communication of our faith and Christian life style to people outside our membership and a focal point for our own communications with (and support of) each other." Check it out! <http://www.ststephensaz.org>

Bonnie Bosworth, Clerk

An Update From the Building Committee - By Fr. Vic

You may remember that I spoke at length during our Annual Parish Meeting about the experience of an average Sunday at St. Stephen's. I focused on the point of our happy problem; we are over crowded when it comes to religious education space and sacristy space. We also heard reports from the Building Committee on funds raised and bids received for the new building. Bids were about twice what we expected and well over what was raised. At that time I suggested that, with due respect for the work done in the past, we take a look at alternative building types. I even showed some slides of manufactured and steel buildings to demonstrate that they no longer look like giant sheds. Having heard many positive remarks on my suggestion, I called a meeting of the building committee to take the project to the next step.

On the evening of March 20 we met in my office to accomplish two important tasks:

1. Bring the newly volunteered members of the committee up to date with the current information on cost options and site plan requirements.
2. Divide into several subcommittees to do the needed research:
 - Bud and Hilda Arnold will research costs and requirements for a modular

building.

-- Karrol Lankford and Carolyn Gates will do the same for steel buildings.

-- Fr. Vic, Nancy Rea and Joan Jurik will draw up a simplified floor plan to take the best possible advantage of these construction techniques. This will be passed to the researchers for their inquiries with the various building contractors.

-- Bruce Dockter will recheck the city requirements for the site plan (this includes parking lot and landscaping requirements).

We will report back to one another at our next meeting on April 17 and have a further update for the parish at that time. Please keep our efforts in your prayers.

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY NEEDS:

Dottie Gutwein, our representative to the **Diocesan Native Ministry Program Group** has placed two bins at the back of the church to receive donations for that ministry, together with lists of those needs. You can also find [Dottie's information and full lists on our web page www.ststephensaz.org/newsblog](http://www.ststephensaz.org/newsblog)

HOLY WEEK & EASTER AT SAINT STEPHEN'S

MARCH 31 - APRIL 1 - PALM WEEKEND

PROCESSION, LITURGY OF THE PALMS with CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Saturday at 5:00 p.m.. - Sunday at 7:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Sale of beadwork and beadmaking demonstration led by Rite 13

THURSDAY, APRIL 5 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

**6:00 p.m. - AGAPÈ MEAL followed by
CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 6

HOLY COMMUNION at NOON

STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 7:00 led by Young People of Rite 13

EASTER EVEN - SATURDAY, APRIL 7

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE & VIGIL

beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Followed by Champagne Reception - Please sign-up

EASTER DAY - APRIL 8

CELEBRATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

7:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Flowering of the Cross, Ingathering of "Thank You" Boxes and Egg Hunt for Our Young People

Please sign-up for Champagne Receptions

AND . . . ON SUNDAY, APRIL 15

GALA BURRITO BREAKFAST hosted by Angels in Training - Following the 7:30 & 10:30 Eucharists

LAST CALL FOR EASTER FLOWERS

This weekend is your final opportunity to add memorials and/or thanksgivings to the list of donors for the Floral Array at Easter. Forms are in the pews for you to fill out and place in the alms basin during services.