

The Messenger

The quarterly publication by and for the members of
Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church, 2750 E. Cardinal Drive, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
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Issue 4 Sep - Dec 2008

Services: Saturday, 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Communion) served at every service. Any baptized Christian may receive Communion at our Altar.

The Rev. Victor J. Sarrazin, Rector



Sisters and Brothers our annual celebrations of Christmas have a deep theological root that we often do not speak about. I hope you will indulge me as I get into the topic here and now. Theologically speaking, Christmas celebrates the incarnation of God. It is about God entering our world and bringing Divine justice and love!

Christmas is about God entering our human world, to become one of us and opening himself to all our pain and joy. We remember that God did not make us and then walk away but stayed close. God joined in the human experience and remains close to guide us into the eternal life he would share with us from His Divinity.

Another part of our joy at Christmas is remembering that the birth of Jesus marks God's justice come into the world in a powerful way. Jesus comes to us as a tender child but will grow into the Man of God who will teach the mercy that is God's justice. We for our part pick up the message and the task of sharing that great love:

- X Letting the sick know that the healer is come
- X Letting the oppressed and exploited know that the righter of wrongs is in our midst
- X Letting the sorrowing and pained know that the comforter is among us
- X Letting the poor know the Kind of fair play and opportunity is here
- X Letting the sinner know that the forgiveness of God is in their reach

Jesus (God in our human world) does not bring only these gifts but one more powerful yet: He empowers those who put faith in him to become children of God. We really and truly can claim a familial relationship with God. We live in a divine and loving union that does not have the problems we may experience in our human families. This union Christ brings us with God is so perfect that it can only come from God.

All of this calls us to our own response of loving, joyful gratitude. It calls us to have a dedication and loyalty to God that is noticeable. It calls us to have a love and compassion for one another (as part of God's family) and deserving the same good treatment we want for ourselves. Our glory as is in being recognized for what we are: exemplary human beings, people of truth and blessedness. Let us richly celebrate the blessed gifts of Christmas!

SENIOR WARDEN – Nancy Rea

This is being written after Bishop Kirk Smith’s visit December 14th. What a pleasure it is to know this man is really interested in us and as good things to teach us! He visited with the Vestry and had some very encouraging words for us. He told us there are two kinds of Vestry – the ones who complain and the ones who try to represent the congregation and work to fulfill the mission of the Church. We are working to be the second kind of vestry. The Bishop reminded us it is part of our Baptismal promise to invite our friends, family and acquaintances to come join in our Church family, to enjoy our fellowship and to discover they can have a forgiving relationship not only with God but the Jesus, too. He acknowledged it is not a natural thing for Episcopalians to do, but encouraged us to make the effort to mention the “good news” to others just in case they are only waiting for us to invite them. I was thinking maybe it might be easier to say, “Come on in, we have room for you, too.” We all want to feel included.

This wonderful time to share the beauty of our Christmas celebration, the Children’s Pageant on Christmas Eve at 5:00pm and the Carrol and Candlelight Service at 10:30pm. Bring a friend or co-worker with you. Tell them there is room for them to celebrate with us. Also don’t forget **Christmas Day at 10:00am** when Fr Vic will celebrate the Eucharist for us.



JUNIOR WARDEN’s Report – Jean Dearman

Recently you all noticed the West side of the property dug up and a real mess. Are you wondering what happened? Well this past fall the original iron pipes providing water to the church decided to spring a very large leak. We were able to provide a temporary pipe above ground until the situation could be resolved with the City. About one month later a new pipe was put in place with a shutoff of the new building. Everything is running smoothly right now. When the new building is completed additional piping will be added for that structure. The cost for

approximately \$2600 but fortunately with everyone keeping up their pledges, the additional cash enabled us to take care of the problem without requesting additional funds. **A BIG THANK YOU!**

TREASURER REPORT – Carol Gates and Toby Hannsz

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All: We are certain that everyone is wondering why they are getting a message from their treasurer. Well the reason is to apprise everyone of the 2009 Budget for St Stephen’s far enough in advance of the Annual Meeting, in January, so everyone call can digest what we are proposing and ask your questions.

Everyone is aware the finances in the USA are not as strong as we would like them to be. During the Stewardship Campaign in October we had a reduction in pledges compared to the 67 pledges for (2008). The guesstimation, at this time, for income will be around \$162,649 - Operating Expenses - \$145,873 Program Expenses - \$23,806 leaving a deficit of approximately \$7,030. At this time, the vestry has approved the budget, with the understanding that the budget will be reviewed by the Finance Committee and Vestry on a quarterly basis. The congregation will be apprised of changes. If we are unable to meet our expenses we will need undertake consideration for cutting programs from 3 to 6% across the board. We understand this might not be pleasant news but with everyone putting forth their best effort and many prayers we will endeavor to meet our goals.

If there is anyone wishing to discuss this, please feel free to contact us (Carol Gates, Toby Hannsz or Father Vic) and we will make arrangements to meet with you. Thank you all and again Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS – Keith Stearns

The Outreach Committee met several times this past fall and finally arrived at a decision where the monies would go. The consensus of the committee was to keep most of the programs here in our local community provided with assistance. The following is how the dollars for 2008 were spread, with the exception of the Millennium Development, which will be decided at the next Committee Meeting, on 20 December: Boys and Girls Club of SV \$650; CANTER \$750; FORGACH House \$850; Good Neighbor Alliance \$600; NACO Wellness Initiative \$600; Seminary Support at the Diocese level \$1000 (this was above the assessment); St Andrew’s Clinic \$600; VICAP \$800; Fort Huachuca Chaplain’s Closet at \$775; San Carlos Apache \$700; and Salvation Army \$105 for Thanksgiving. The church also provides lunches for the Salvation Army once a month.

BUILDING COMMITTEE – Bruce Dockter
Update on the Administrative Building

The approved site plan for the Education and Administration Building has been received from the city. In January the Development Committee will meet to begin the next step in the process, which is to seek bids for a General Contractor.

ST. BARBARA CHAPTER, DAUGHTERS of the KING, (520) 459-8931 Jean Dearman,

The Daughter’s of The King has changed its meeting time to the second Thursday of each month at 6:30pm. We are currently studying “A Spiritual Formation Workbook.” If you are interested in learning more, call Jean Dearman @ 458-8931.



Thank You! To Henry Dearman and Dick Haines for the cross on the roof over the entrance to the church. Every church needs a cross and now we have ours, even if it is only during the Christmas season.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY- EFM – Dottie Gutwein

This seminar is now beginning for 2009-2011 season in January 2009. It is a four year course. Mentors are trained to lead the 34 week course through worship, text discussion, and theological reflections. The first year focus is the Hebrew Scripture, the second year is the Christian Scripture, followed by a history of the church and fourth year introduces theologians. Participants commit to one year at a time at a cost of \$340.00 per year. That includes the text book, notebook for journaling, and a “Common Lesson” book which all levels work on together. Continuing education credits are awarded for each year completed. Upon graduation, certificates are awarded in a recognition ceremony during our 10:30 service. It is open to all Christians. We currently have 4 Episcopalians, 1 Seventh Day Adventist, and 2 Presbyterians. There are no right or wrong answer and nor do we take tests or quizzes. The intention is to equip and assist in identifying were ministry of the Holy Spirit is leading the laity toward. For further information, please call Dottie Gutwein, (Mentor) at 515-0679.

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY PROGRAM -Dottie Gutwein

This is a diocesan program group which meets every other month under the leadership of the Rev. Deacon Dorothy Saucedo and Vivian Winterchaser, both of the Navajo Reservation. The Mission Statement is: “To create and encourage avenues of reconciliation and ministry with the First People of Arizona.” This past fall we celebrated David Oakerhater, a first Native American Deacon from Oklahoma with a Eucharist and program at the Trinity Cathedral in Phoenix. The group is currently working on a new set of Goals and will meet in January to finalize what was begun in May 2008. We have mostly Episcopal members although we encourage other denominations to join us. Currently there has been interest in doing a prison ministry to the Athabascans from Alaska, those incarcerated at the Federal Prison in Florence. If we are able to, it’s our hope to , connect the families through closed circuit websites with the imprisoned family members. Also, the

provide scholarships to the youth and adults for camperships, educational programs, personnel and material assistance via All Saints' Church Safford. The Thanksgiving and Christmas food/blanket programs with the San Carlos Apache Tribe; provides an opportunity to learn, and be more aware and assist other Native Americans throughout the country. Also, to develop connections with those Native Americans now living off reservations.

November-December Blanket Drive for the San Carlos Apache Reservation continues. We have been asking for donations of gently used and clean blankets to be delivered along with the Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes. This is an annual event sponsored by All Saints' Episcopal Church, Safford. Our Outreach Ministry has, traditionally, donated monetarily towards purchase of frozen turkeys and produce. Volunteers from St. Stephens and other diocesan churches have sorted and delivered food boxes. Our hope was to be able to include blankets to all families. We have delivered over 100 blankets this year to 80+ families – Thank you for your gifts!

RONALD McDONALD HOUSE – December 2008 Andy Anderson

The Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) provides temporary housing to families of seriously ill children undergoing treatment. The group's signature Ronald McDonald House program maintains some 270 facilities near hospitals in more than two dozen countries. RMHC also offers more than 80 Ronald McDonald Family Rooms, designed to provide places of respite within hospitals. Its Ronald McDonald Care Mobile program brings routine medical services, including immunizations, to children in underserved communities. RMHC operates through local chapters in about 50 countries and regions worldwide. The first Ronald McDonald House opened in 1974, in memory of McDonald's founder Ray Kroc. RMHC was founded in 1984. Ronald McDonald House of Southern Arizona exists to provide a home away from home for families who have to travel to Tucson seeking medical treatment for their children. More than just a place to sleep, Ronald McDonald House provides a warm, safe, and comfortable home-like environment for families who are caring for seriously ill children. Ronald

McDonald Family Room at University Medical Center extends out care and comfort to families, both near and far, by creating a little piece of RMHC right inside the hospital. While we cannot ease the pain these families experience, we can help lessen their burden. RMHC relies on the love, sharing and caring of hundreds of generous donors and volunteers from the community. We open our doors and welcome you to the "House that Love Built"

Did you know:

- 1,490 pop tabs make on pound.
- 140 pounds funds one family to stay one night at out House
- 135 pounds pays for electricity for one day at out House.
- One pound of pull tabs equals 1,267 tabs and one mile equals 63,360 tabs.

In additional to several families pulling and turning in pull tabs, we can use more, we also turn in aluminum cans and the money from cans goes back into the Churches general fund. The collection point at the church is located near the handicap parking, upper level, and I ask that pull tabs be placed in zip lock bags and placed on the shelf at the back of the church or handed to me at the 7:30 Sunday morning service. For large quantities please contact Andrew M. Anderson at 459-1852. I will come and pick them up if necessary.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW) - Dinah McCreery

St Stephen's Café was a resounding success thanks to the many parishoners who baked and worked. Some of you did all three! When expenses (advertising, supplied) are paid, we should clear over \$1000. If you have suggestions for improvement, please contact Dinah (378-1138) and mark your calendars for the second weekend in December '09 (December 12th).

The ECW (Episcopal Church Women) will hold their next meeting at noon on Wednesday, January 7th on the porch classroom. All women of the parish are automatically members and welcome. Bring a sack lunch and come enjoy the fellowship.



WORSHIP MINSITRY – Ron McCreery

NEEDED: Three or four additional Eucharistic Ministers (the ones who serve the chalice plus other liturgical duties) and three or four Eucharistic Visitors (the ones who take the Eucharist to shut-ins or anyone who didn't make it to church). While we have a reasonable list, we don't always have reasonable availability. Previous experience is not necessary, we'll train you. These ministries are vital to the life of the church. Please see or call Ron McCreery (378-1138).

The Wednesday Morning Conspiracy

Each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a group of co-conspirators gather in the back of your church. We meet to sit in silence, meditate, pray --- to con-spire, breathe together (spire = breathe, con = together). We try to emulate a "Conspiracy of Compassion," breathing together for a wounded world. A litany for healing is prayed for those on our intercessory list who are ill. Prayers for strength and protection, ministries, travelers, are breathed as we hold in our hearts and minds the persons whose names we receive and bring. As we end with Thanksgivings we are reminded how blessed we are to be called to this ministry. We welcome you to join us for this and/or the Bible Study which follows at 10:30. (We finish at 12:00).

STEWARDSHIP - Dottie Gutwein

Our Stewardship Drive for this season has drawn to a close. We have had 61 pledges, which include some new ones. We are most grateful for those who have helped in whatever way they can to keep St. Stephen's Ministries active. It is surely an economically sad time but the spirit of our congregation does not reflect it. We did enjoy a great dinner together in October with the Rev. Cannon Timothy Dombeck as guest speaker. Members of the vestry then contacted those who could not attend. The unopened pledge cards were received and blessed by Fr Vic at the altar on Oct 11 and 12. At the Diocesan Convention a workshop was offered on Stewardship and suggested many new and exciting ideas for this ministry. We are hoping to implement some of those ideas in the coming year. In the

meantime. **THANK YOU ALL AGAIN FOR YOUR PLEDGES**, both monetary and time/talent.

St. STEPHEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL – Seeking God – Deborah Summers and Tim Ash

Angels-in-Training Sunday School: Our Angels-in-Training Sunday School Children recently took part in our worship service during Bishop Kirk Smith's visit. Our Angels served as greeters, processed with the Bishop, Rector, Acolytes and Choir. They also took up the offering and presented our gifts of bread and wine, and served as ushers during Communion. This participation helps our children understand St. Stephens cares about them, and providing our Angels a sense of belonging in the worship experience. Thanks to **Patty Day** for your ideas and hard work in preparing the children's beautiful robes and collars. They are truly Angels in our and God's eyes.

Middle and High School Sunday School – Our Middle and High School youth have begun incorporating 'A Purpose Driven Life' into their curriculum. 'A Purpose Drive Life' is a best selling book by author, Rick Warren who takes the groundbreaking message on the Purpose-Drive Church and applying it to the lifestyle of individual Christians. The book helps readers understand God's incredible plan for their lives. It helps our youth to see the big picture of what life is all about and begin to live the life God created them to live.

High School Youth Group – Tim Ash, Allison Tigert and Joan Jurik

Rite-13 helped make Thanksgiving a Special Day of Thanks! Our Rite-13 Youth Group donated raised funds to support the Salvation Army Thanksgiving Drive. Our youth personally shopped for groceries to cook up a nice Thanksgiving Dinner for an entire family and to include a donation of a nice butterball turkey.

The High School and Rite-13 Youth Groups support the Holiday Angel Tree Program –

Although it may be hard to believe this holiday season, a season of joy and warmth for most, there are many people in the US going hungry or cold, and children not able to receive gifts. Poverty is not something that happens only to those who live far away – it happens in our neighborhoods, on our streets. Only we have the power to do something about it. To make this season a lighter brighter for a few young people, our High School and Middle School Youth Groups used raised funds to contribute to the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program. The Salvation Army’s Angel Tree program provided new clothing or toys for children of needy families. The Holiday Angel Tree Program provides another opportunity for our young people to fulfill their desire to reach out to others. Both Youth Groups selected tags from the decorated Angel Tree with the first name, age and gender of a child who would receive the gift. Youth leaders then chaperoned our youth on shopping trips to purchase appropriate gifts for the children described on the tags.

“**St. Stephen’s Caroling Superstars**” – While we’re missing a one-horse sleigh, glistening snow and angelic voices but the St Stephens Caroling Superstars (AKA our High School and Middle School Youth Groups) will enjoy caroling with friends and family on Saturday, 20 December. We look forward to visiting our church family; hope our smiles and enthusiasm will make up for our lack of years of singing lessons.

CHRISTAMMS PAGEANT – The Birth of JESUS – On Christmas Eve, Wednesday, 24 December, our Children and Youth will present a Christmas Pageant “The Birth of Jesus”. We will use the Gospels according to John, Luke and Matthew to explore and celebrate this great event. **Come celebrate with us the mystery of the birth of our Lord Jesus.**

ST PAUL’S TOMBSTONE – Tony Roselli

St Paul’s has been helping schools with classroom TVs. Since many of you are switching over to flat

screen TVs at home. You may have an old TV that you no longer need and may like to donate to a school. Their requirements are rather simple. It must be working, have a remote, suitable for placement on a media cart and be at least 25” in screen size. If you would like to donate or have questions, please contact Tony Roselli at 458-2602.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – Fr Puckle

We missed out on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi so St. Stephen’s had a Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, November 8th. There were 27 animals with their attending companions. And what a collection: horses, donkey, cats, dogs, and the Chicken. (We always have a chicken.) The Percheron (a horse that stood taller than me, and I’m 6’3”) stood there, quietly, for the blessing. We all gathered in a semicircle, heard a lesson from Gensis, prayed for our animals and for our care of them, and most especially for God’s blessing of these wonderful creatures. Then all were blessed with a sprinkling of holy water, animals, and their attending humans. The animals were all given an appropriate treat. Commemorative (ok, let’s call them Holy) cards were given to everyone as a remembrance of the occasion. Pictures of the celebration can be seen on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

FR PUCKLE’S OPEN HOUSE – Fr. Donne

Saturday, October 11th, was a very special day for Fr Donne Puckle. It was then that he hosted an open house and asked the people of St. Stephen’s Church to be present for the blessing of his home.. The house was “packed to the walls”. At least 70 people signed the guest book. Son Donne, daughter Liz, and son-in-law Dan were present along with many of Fr. Donne’s friends. Lessons were read by Donne and Liz. Fr Victor led the prayers and Fr Donne led the way through the house. Fr. Victor blessed each room with prayer and the sprinkling of holy water. We gathered, finally, in the living room for the final blessing. This was a wonderful occasion and many thanks to all who attended, to the ECW who provided such delicious refreshments and to Fr. Vic.



ORGAN RESTORATION Mathew Whitehouse

Although it looks as if nothing has happened with our long-awaited organ restoration project, rest assured this is not the case, and that the restoration is moving along nicely. Our organ builder, Michael O’Sullivan, has begun work on several new parts for our organ at his shop in Marana. Those parts include: new windchest (the part of the organ on which the pipes are mounted, new wind pressure regulator, and new swell box. Once construction of these large items is completed, they will be transported to Sierra Vista, at which point the organ will be disassembled, and the actual rebuilding in the church will begin. This will happen early in the new year, most likely in January 2009. We’ll thus be without the organ for between one and two months during the winter and early spring, during which time I will lead our worship from the piano. If all goes as planned, we should have the organ back, and most – if not all – of the “bugs” out by Easter.

In other music news perhaps you have noticed that our choir continues to grow. Special thanks goes to our dedicated choir members for their leadership of our Sunday prayer, especially during the season of Advent and Christmas. As you see members of our choir before the service or during Coffee Hour, please make a point to thank them for their ministry among us. Please also consider joining the choir, and if you know someone who might enjoy singing with the choir, by all means introduce that person to me. Membership is open to everyone; there is no audition, and membership in St Stephens or the Episcopal Church is not required. All ages, including young people are welcome. A lack of confidence, training in music, or singing is NOT an excuse; we’ll teach you – in a fun and non-threatening way! Rehearsals are Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

DINNERS FOR SIX – Marlene Stearns (803-0885) and Rhonda Sarrazin (459-3935)

The revamped format for Dinners of Six has provided to have been successful, and brought positive comments from a number of those who participated these last three months. It is time to make the commitment for the next three-month round of the

dinners. We urge all to sign up if you enjoy good food and the opportunity for good conversation and fellowship. Your commitment is to host one of the three dinners for the group you will be eating with, and to participate in a pot-luck type menu determined by the host/hostess for the meal for the meal. Casual and simple is encouraged – one inventive hostess went so far as to serve MRE’s to her guests and a hilarious time was reported. Sign up as a couple or an individual. If you are single and wish to bring a guest, just indicate so on the sign-up sheet. Questions please call Marlene or Rhonda.

NEW - FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR:
This January, we are renewing a tradition of helping parishoners to give a Thanksgiving for loved ones or commemorating a special occasion and at the same time beautify our church. We will have **The Flower Chart**. The **Chart** will be posted for people to sign up for a special date (or just because). The giver is then responsible for bringing the flowers/plants to church and putting them on the two shelves at the window behind the altar. After the 10:30 service on Sunday, the flowers must be removed. There are vases available in the Sacristy which must be cleaned and replaced if used. It is hoped that this activity will not need anyone in charge (unless you want to volunteer). The arrangements do not need to be lavish. Flowers from your florist or the supermarket are beautiful. If you wish to have your name and/or the occasion listed in the weekly bulletin, please give your information including the date of the gift to Bonnie in writing at least a week beforehand.

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE – Bob Boyer

Who are the Strategic Planning Committee members? Bob Boyer, Bruce Dockter, Cate Hesser, Doris Millard, Brian Smith and Joe Ladensack who were recruited by the Vestry. Ex-Officio members are the Rector and Senior Warden:

What is the Strategic Planning Committee’s purpose?
The purpose of the Strategic Planning Committee is to guide, assist and support St Stephen’s Church in

accomplishing its mission. With the help of the Holy Spirit we propose to:

- Examine and prioritize Vestry goals
- Help develop and implement workable plans for success
- Give guidance to other parish organizations in their organization and development
- Provide high quality and timely communications

How will we accomplish our goals? Develop a long range plan (five-year living document) to help the Vestry implement the goals stated in St Stephen's Mission and Purpose Statement. The document will provides a roadmap for the Vestry to implement the goals proposed in St. Stephen's Mission and Purpose Statement.

Mission Statement: *Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, St. Stephen's is called to: live the love of Christ and one another, dedicate ourselves to serve the needs of all peoples, and promote spiritual growth.*

Purpose Statement: In accomplishing our mission we propose to:

- *Continued expanding and enriching our worship experience
- *Develop a more comprehensive outreach program
- *Establish and implement internal operating procedures
- *Implement a more comprehensive education, training and spiritual formation program
- *Create a strategic planning committee who will prepare and implement a plan for our growth as a congregation, the development of our facilities and professional staff.
- *Develop and implement an effective marketing strategy.

What has the committee accomplished to date? We have provided leadership to the Finance and Outreach Ministries and conducted successful mini retreats. The purpose of these retreats was to enable the ministries to focus their efforts and prioritize their goals. We have also conducted an internal exercise that enabled us to recognize the committee's priorities on the following criteria from high to lowest – Worship; Outreach, Internal Operating

Procedures; Education, Training, Spiritual Formation; Strategic Planning Committee; and Marketing. Early in the upcoming year we will assist the Worship and Education Ministries to conduct mini retreats helping focus their efforts and prioritize their goals. We plan on meeting with the various ministry leaders to ascertain the ministry's goals. We will use this information along with guidance from the Vestry to develop St. Stephen's Strategic Plan.

COMING EVENTS:

Epiphany occurs on January 6th, will be celebrated on 10 and 11 January 2009 at all services.

Fr Vic has scheduled a Contemplative Eucharist Service for the first Sunday evening at 5PM each month. Next one is January 4th. Mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend. We are hoping it will be a service to enrich your spiritual experience. Join us ...we want and need you there.

The Diocese will be hosting a retreat for all the Vestries in the Diocese at Chapel Rock, Prescott. It begins on Thursday, January 8th (we need to be there for dinner) thru lunch on Saturday, Jan 10. All Vestry members, past, present, and future are invited. Wouldn't I love for us to have a full representation! We'll carpool up there, stay the two nights at the camp (rooms are heated, very comfortable, have full bath facilities & the meals are great!). There are dormitories as well for those who wish to save a bit on the cost. Bonnie and I have applications, so contact her at the office or call me at 439-3030.

Our Annual Meeting will be, 24 January in conjunction with the evening worship service. Believe Alverita will be coordinating a pot-luck dinner as well. Put the date on your calendar and plan to attend. We will be electing new Vestry members, a Junior Warden, Delegates to Diocesan Convention, and will present the Budget for 2009 as well as various reports on what has happened in the Parish in 2008. Come and get involved!

February 1st will be the third Contemplative Eucharist Service on Sunday evening. Look for the time in the Bulletin and the E-Scene.

February 24th is SHROVE TUESDAY – Believe we will be having our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – don't miss the good eats. And remember, it is a great time to invite a friend(s) to join in. It's an easy introduction to how we celebrate the opening of the Lenten Season. It's a super meal and the small fee goes towards our Outreach Program.

February 25th is ASH WEDNESDAY – There will be several services that day to begin the Lenten Season. Watch the Bulletin and the E-Scene for service times.

March 1st – is the fourth Contemplative Eucharist that Sunday evening. Plan to join in and see what YOU might experience.

The evening of March 20th - start of the Vestry Retreat to be held at La Purisima Retreat Center in Ash Canyon. All Vestry members and Ministry Coordinators are invited to attend. It will run thru Sunday morning. There are sleeping quarters for those who wish to spend the night and all meals will be provided. Be sure to put March 20th thru 22d on your calendar if you qualify.

March 21st is the ECW Spring Rummage Sale. Save your 'giveaways' and regift them to the ECW to fill their Camper Scholarship Fund. They have been able to send all kids who are interested to Church Camp at Chapel Rock in Prescott several years in a row. We want them to be able to do it in 2009. Clean out your closets and garages.

April 5th is PALM SUNDAY. If you have never participated in the services of Easter week, perhaps this is the year to attend and see what more there is to preparing for the East Celebration. The fifth Contemplative Eucharist will occur on Sunday evening.

April 9th is MAUNDY THURSDAY. There will be an evening service and perhaps an Agape Meal. See the Bulletin and E-Scene for details.

April 10th is GOOD FRIDAY. There usually is a noontime service and Stations of the Cross at the evening service. See the Bulletin and E-Scene.

April 11th is HOLY SATURDAY. The evening service is The Great Vigil. Traditionally also a time

for Baptisms and Bible readings. See the Bulletin and E-scene for details.

April 12th is EASTER. Bring everyone you know to help us celebrate our RISEN LORD! It is a glorious day of celebration and our Annual Easter Brunch.

J2A Happenings – Tori Jurk

Since the kick off of our new year in Sept, the J2A Youth Group has been busy with outreach opportunities, expansion of our spiritual growth and of course fun team building activities. We are grateful for the support of our church which has helped to aid us in our endeavors. Our group consists of 8 high school students, Nick, David, Dakota, Skylar, Bonnie, Joseph, Alanina and myself. Our 2 devoted and supportive youth leaders are the lovely Allison Tigert and Joan Jurik.

In Oct the gang packed up and drove to Flagstaff. Although it was a bit chiller than we're used to, everyone felt welcomed at the beautiful Church of Epiphany, complete with gorgeous stained glass windows and labyrinth. We also took the time to visit the restored Riodan Mansion, the NAU campus and Slide Rock.

Recently, our group went Christmas shopping for 5 less fortunate children. Hopefully the kids have a wonderful new year with their new clothes and toys. We also will be Christmas caroling with the younger youth group (St Stephens Saints). Primarily we will be visiting some of our home bound parishioners, spreading the Christmas Spirit. In addition to our outreach projects we have enjoyed each others company at lock-ins and surprised one another without weekly secret Santa gifts.

In early March the J2A group plans on sending a suitcase full of clothes and school supplies to an orphanage in Vietnam. Mr. Martin, a Vietnam veteran, plans on returning to Vietnam in order to bring supplies and offer his therapeutic massage services to disabled children. Seeing our outreach effort affect others across the world has had a tremendous impact on our world view and has shown how humanity is not constrained by borders & fences.

As a group we would like to thank the congregation for their support and interest in our activities. We wish all a safe & joyous New Year.

January 2008

Holy Eucharist:
Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30 AM and 10:30 AM
Sunday School: 9:00 AM
St Anne's Guild, each Tuesday, 9:00 AM, at Church
Prayer, each Wednesday, 10:00 AM, Church
Bible Study, each Wednesday, 10:30 AM, Church
Education for Ministry, each Sunday, 2:00 PM
Daughters of the King, 2d Thursday, 6:30 PM, at Church
ECW: 3rd Wednesday, 12:30 PM, Brown Bag Lunch, at Church:
Vestry: 3rd Thursday, 6:30 PM, at Church

Special Events for December/January
1st Thursday, 9:00 AM, St. Andrew's Clinic, Nogales
2nd Wednesday, 12:30 PM, Salvation Army luncheon
January 10-11 Epiphany Celebration
January 8-10 Vestry Retreat – Chapel Rock
January 24th – Annual Meeting – Pot Luck

February 2008

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Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30 AM and 10:30 AM
Sunday School: 9:00 AM
St. Anne's Guild, each Tuesday, 9:00 AM, at Church
Prayer, each Wednesday, 10:00 AM, Church
Bible Study, each Wednesday, 10:30 AM, Church
Education for Ministry, each Sunday, 2:00 PM
Daughters of the King: 3rd Monday, 6:30 PM, at Church
ECW: 3rd Wednesday, 12:30 PM, Brown Bag Lunch, at Church
Vestry: 3rd Thursday, 6:30 PM, at Church

Special Events for February
1st Thursday, 9:00 AM, St. Andrew's Clinic, Nogales
2nd Wednesday, 12:30 PM, Salvation Army luncheon
1st Feb – Contemplative Eucharist 5 PM
24th, Shrove Tuesday
25th, Ash Wednesday

March 2008

Holy Eucharist:
Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30 AM and 10:30 AM
Sunday School: 9:00 AM
St. Anne's Guild, each Tuesday, 9:00 AM, at Church
Prayer, each Wednesday, 10:00 AM, Church (no meeting on 26th)
Bible Study, each Wednesday, 10:30 AM, Church
Education for Ministry, each Sunday, 2:00 PM
Daughters of the King: 3rd Monday, 6:30 PM, at Church
ECW: 3rd Wednesday, 12:30 PM, Brown Bag Lunch, at Church
Vestry: 3rd Thursday, 6:30 PM, at Church

Special Events for March
1st Thursday, 9:00 AM, St. Andrew's Clinic, Nogales
2nd Wednesday, 12:30 PM, Salvation Army luncheon
1st March - Contemplative Eucharist – 5 PM
March 20-22 - Vestry Retreat – LaPurissima Center