

St. Stephen's E-Scene

Electronic News of the Episcopal Church in Sierra Vista, Arizona
November 6, 2008

➡ *Don't miss Nancy Rea's Diocesan Convention Report - Attached to this e-mail in pdf format*

Stewardship 2009 - Growing in Service & Spirituality

Our Stewardship campaign dinner last month was a great success. Everyone who attended were really impressed with the prayers put together by our youth members--**Tim Ash, Jr.** for the young adults; **Ian Emrie** for the High School youth group. Our speaker, **The Rev. Canon Timothy Dombeck**, was both informative and entertaining in his witness to Stewardship.

Pledges for 2009 continue to come in, although have not yet reached the number received this time last year. Thank you to all Vestry members who have been contacting the folks who have not yet pledged.

If you have not already done so, please consider all that God does for you and give according to your Blessings. The Stewardship and Budget Committees hope to have 100% pledges in hand soon.



**Our Pets are Invited
to**

ALL ANIMALS' DAY

**This Saturday, November 8 - 8:00 a.m. in the Parking Lot
A Special Blessing and Treats for All
With a special offering for local *At Risk* Animals**

ST. STEPHEN'S ANNUAL EARLY BIRD BAZAAR was a success thanks to all of you who donated crafts and food, helped set up and/or take down, worked to sell, and, of course, bought! Alverita Egbert says we served lunch to 60 people! Doris Millard reports that we took in over \$600 for raffle tickets - the most ever! We had six wonderful raffle prizes: a quarter of beef won by Clinton Egbert, a merino wool shawl knitted by Jacquie Kelly won by Marietta Conley, a desert scene embroidered by Carol Gates won by Jerry and Jana Proctor, a flower picture also by Carol Gates won by Ethel Berger, a decorative tile painted by Jana Proctor won by Hilda Arnold, and a pair of Waterford candlesticks from an anonymous donor won by Margaret Younger. Four parishioners won and two ladies who have supported our sales for many years. Our final total is \$2,507.00. Out of that 10% goes to the St. Stephen's general fund for use of the parish hall; 10% to the Rector's Discretionary Fund to help people with emergencies; 50% of the remainder to the new kitchen fund and the balance for camperships for our youth and other charities. --Dinah McCreery & Joan Strom

The San Carlos Apache Reservation Blanket/Food Drive is scheduled for sorting, packing and delivery the weekends of Nov. 21 and Dec. 21. **Jacquie Kelly** will be taking our blankets to the meeting place, All Saints, Safford, in November and the Outreach Ministry is sending their annual check to cover the purchase of frozen turkeys and other perishables. I will be going in December with more blankets. Thank you all for the blankets received. We will continue the collection until December 15. --Dottie

THANKSGIVING DAY EUCHARIST AND ALL-PARISH DINNER

Thursday, the 27th - Beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Please sign-up now and plan to bring your favorite holiday side dish to share

Judas Asparagus:

The Children's Bible by a Child!

In the beginning, which occurred near the start, there was nothing but God, darkness, and some gas. The Bible says, 'The Lord thy God is one, but I think He must be a lot older than that.'

Anyway, God said, 'Give me a light!' and someone did.

Then God made the world. He split the Adam and made Eve. Adam and Eve were naked, but they weren't embarrassed because mirrors hadn't been invented yet.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating one bad apple, so they were driven from the Garden of Eden. Not sure what they were driven in though, because they didn't have cars.

Adam and Eve had a son, Cain, who hated his brother as long as he was Abel.

Pretty soon all of the early people died off, except for Methuselah, who lived to be like a million or something.

One of the next important people was Noah, who was a good guy, but one of his kids was kind of a Ham. Noah built a large boat and put his family and some animals on it. He asked some other people to join him, but they said they would have to take a rain check.

After Noah came Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Jacob was more famous than his brother, Esau, because Esau sold Jacob his birthmark in exchange for some pot roast. Jacob had a son named Joseph who wore a really loud sports coat.

Another important Bible guy is Moses, whose real name was Charlton Heston. Moses led the Israel Lights out of Egypt and away from the evil Pharaoh after God sent ten plagues on Pharaoh's people. These plagues included frogs, mice, lice, bowels, and no cable.

God fed the Israel Lights every day with manicotti. Then he gave them His Top Ten Commandments. These include: don't lie, cheat, smoke, dance, or covet your neighbor's stuff. Oh, yeah, I just thought of one more: Humor thy father and thy mother.

One of Moses' best helpers was Joshua who was the first Bible guy to use spies. Joshua fought the battle of Geritol and the fence fell over on the town.

After Joshua came David. He got to be king by killing a giant with a slingshot. He had a son named Solomon who had about 300 wives and 500 porcupines. My teacher says he was wise, but that doesn't sound very wise to me.

After Solomon there were a bunch of major league prophets.

One of these was Jonah, who was swallowed by a big whale and then barfed up on the shore. There were also some minor league prophets, but I guess we don't have to worry about them.

After the Old Testament came the New Testament. Jesus is the Star. He was born in Bethlehem in a barn. (I wish I had been born

in a barn too, because my mom is always saying to me, 'Close the door! Were you born in a barn?' It would be nice to say, 'As a matter of fact, I was.')

During His life, Jesus had many arguments with sinners like the Pharisees and the Republicans.

Jesus also had twelve opossums. The worst one was Judas Asparagus. Judas was so evil that they named a terrible vegetable after him.

Jesus was a great man. He healed many leopards and even preached to some Germans on the mount.

But the Republicans and all those guys put Jesus on trial before Pontius the Pilot. Pilot didn't stick up for Jesus. He just washed his hands instead.

Anyways, Jesus died for our sins, then came back to life again.

He went up to Heaven but will be back at the end of the Aluminum. His return is foretold in the book of Revolution.

With many thanks to Nancy Rea!

DID YOU KNOW?

Tuition Tax Credit - What it is, How it Works

Arizona law (A.R.S. AZ 43-1089) provides for a credit of up to \$1,000 against state income tax obligations to any Arizona taxpayer for payments made to a qualified School Tuition Organization (STO).

The **Arizona Episcopal Schools Foundation** is a qualified School Tuition Organization and a non-profit Arizona corporation, which is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The **Foundation** does not accept funds designated for a particular child.

The **Foundation** qualifies for employer matching funds programs. Please double your contribution and check with your employer! The information presented here is not intended to provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your tax advisor or the State Department of Revenue for questions about individual issues.

Facts about the Tax Credit

What: The Arizona State Tax Credit for Contributions to School Tuition Organizations

Who: All Arizona taxpayers can participate

Why: To create educational opportunity through scholarships for students to attend the **Foundation's** schools.

When: Contributions must reach us by December 31 . The Foundation supplies tax documentation for your convenience

How: Please send any amount up to your qualified maximum. The maximum for married couples filing jointly is \$1000. Single or head of household is \$500.

COST: ZERO DOLLARS! Your Arizona tax obligation is the funding source.

For more information or to donate
on line, go to the FOUNDATION
web page: www-esf.org