

# St. Stephen's E-Scene

Electronic News of the Episcopal Church in Sierra Vista, Arizona  
November 28, 2007

*The Year of St. Stephen 2007-2008*  
*Honoring the Past + Celebrating the Present + Building the Future*

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**Saturday & Sunday, December 1 & 2** – Lighting of the First Advent Candle!  
Visitors from Imago Dei Episcopal Middle School speaking on their mission to at risk children

**Saturday, December 8** – St. Stephen's Cookie Sale & Café (see below)

**Sunday, December 9** – 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Wassail Party at the Sarrazin's

**Wednesday Evenings - December 12 & 19**

PRAYING WITH ICONS - An Advent Study Program  
Beginning at 7:00 p.m. - Led by Ron McCreery

**Saturday Evening, December 15 - Following the 5:00 Eucharist**

Thank You & Send Off Potluck for Chaplain Mark Beals (see below)

**Saturday & Sunday, December 16 & 17** - Lighting of the Pink Advent Candle

We'll Share our Nativity Creches with young people of Angels in Training

*Bring your "kid proof" Manger Scene to display on the porch and leave the Limoges and Waterford  
at home so the children can help with the decorating!*

**Sunday, December 23** – Stay after the 10:30 Eucharist to help decorate the church

**Christmas Eve, December 24**

Celebration of the Christmas Eucharist Pageant at 5 o'clock

The Carols of Christmas beginning at 10:30 p.m.

Candlelit Choral Eucharist beginning at 11:00 p.m.

**Tuesday Morning at 10 o'clock** – Celebration of the Christmas Eucharist

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**VESTRY NOMINATIONS.** Our 2007 Vestry Nominating Committee is made up of the three retiring members; **Jacque Kelly** [bnjkelly@theriver.com](mailto:bnjkelly@theriver.com), **Joan Jurik** [joanjurik@cox.net](mailto:joanjurik@cox.net), and **Catherine Foy** [hlandt1s@wmconnect.com](mailto:hlandt1s@wmconnect.com), who will prepare the slate of candidates to serve three year terms on the Vestry. Those candidates will be presented and voted on at the Annual Meeting of the Parish on Saturday, January 26. **If you are interested in serving on the Vestry or have names you wish to put forward**, contact any one of the committee members now as they begin plans for 2008.

**ST. ANDREW'S CHILDREN'S CLINIC IN NOGALES.** Our E.C.W. has donated \$300 to purchase Christmas toys for the children at St. Andrew's and Alverita Egbert will deliver those presents on Thursday, December 6. We're asked to add our holiday gifts and always-needed supplies of diapers, wipes, nutritional drinks and more to the basket at the church door for delivery before the holidays.

### **ST. STEPHEN'S CAFÉ AND COOKIE-BAKE SALE**

St. Stephen's will hold our Annual Cookie & Bake Sale in the parish hall Saturday, December 8th, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Apart from wonderful plates of assorted delicacies ready for your party there will be English mince pies, fudge, jam tarts, and more. To reserve an order call Dinah McCreery (378-1138).

**St. Stephen's Cafe'** will also be offering coffee and tea so bring your friends and enjoy the fellowship .

#### **OUTREACH MEETING - Wednesday, December 12 - Beginning at 6:30 p.m**

The 2008 budget will be discussed and final adjustment to 2007 allocations made.

All members of the parish interested in OUTREACH are urged to attend.

**FROM THE NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRY:** On November 17, 2007, 7 vehicles drove food boxes for 40 families to the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Bylas, AZ from All Saints Episcopal Church in Safford. Each vehicle had been packed with boxes for families in specific areas of the reservation. Each vehicle was met by a guide at the Elderly Citizen Center who then showed the drivers around and introduced the families receiving the food boxes. There were two cars from St. Stephen's and one from St. John's Bisbee. Through the generosity of both congregations we were able to share in feeding our Apache Brothers and Sisters yet another Thanksgiving Season. Some families were only 2 people but the average was 4 to 6 and some as many as 12 in one household. We were encouraged to see that the county has finally begun paving the streets and putting up street signs on the reservation. Although we are still not given actual street addresses, we do know that the areas where we deliver will be better identified--even for the guides taking us around. Special Thank You to Judy Marvin, Katherine Brookshire, Mary Anne Somerville and Jacquie Kelly for being our local drivers and "donation handlers". Some folks did also donate blankets and clothing which were delivered separately by the folks at All Saints. God Bless and thank you to all who gave so generously. **Dottie Gutwein**



**OUR RECENT U.T.O. INGATHERING** collected well over \$400, to be forwarded to national headquarters for use by The United Thank Offering in 2009; reflecting its new vision focusing on projects that implement significant change toward alleviating profound human suffering that directly impacts the lives of women and children. **If there are still coins in your Blue Box, now's the time to count them up, write a check, place that check in a blue envelope and into an alms basin.**

**ALERT!** *The Messenger* (our quarterly publication) is going to print on 12 December so if you have any articles for the next quarter please get them to Johnny Lankford, Jill Holsonback, Doris Millard, Jeff Speer, Marge Pult or Carol Gates. We want this to be ready for our Christmas and winter visitors

**Please come to a "THANK YOU" potluck for Chaplain Mark Beals on Saturday, December 15 following the 5:00 p.m. church service. Reninder, Chaplain Beals spoke at the Stewardship dinner. A sign-up sheet will be posted.**

**Please come one and all to give Chaplain Beals a warm send-off to the Netherlands.**