

EASTER GREETINGS ANGELS!!!

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO PARTICIPATED IN AND HELPED WITH THE AMAZING LITURGIES OF HOLY WEEK AND TRIDUUM! SUCH A TIME OF GRACE AND BLESSINGS! I'M ALREADY PERCOLATING SOME IDEAS FOR NEXT YEAR! DANGEROUS, I KNOW 😊.

We have some great opportunities coming up.

Our JustFaith group has a couple of weeks of study left. It has been a good experience. We really enjoyed having former Rep. Harry Mitchell join us so that we could pick his brain about local, state and federal workings of the government. It was refreshing to hear from someone who might be, that he refuses to be cynical and is still filled with hope for our system as imperfect and broken as it is at times. One of the books we are reading is a collection of essays from various authors entitled: "10 Excellent Reasons Not To Hate Taxes." Yes, I know what you are thinking – yuck! My first reaction also but it is really good. Inspiring and Informative.

Fr. Ed is back with us this weekend!!!! We are so happy to have him back and I'm excited to be a pew person this weekend!

Next Sunday, April 22, Pastor Doug will be our preacher as we remember with our liturgy next week our duties as stewards of the Earth on Earth Day.

On Sunday, May 6 after mass we will have our next Parish Potluck and we will also have a Diapers Only! Baby Shower for Valeska and Cynthia. No "new born" size please. Size 1s & 2s. Disposables. There are some nice options made today that are environmentally more friendly. If you need some ideas, ask Pastor Sue.

On Sunday, May 13, John Dorhauer, Conference Minister, Southwest Conference, United Church of Christ (that's kinda like a Bishop! In any case, he's Rev. Vernon's boss!) will be our guest preacher. I met him at a storytelling gathering and he is really a great guy.

I will be reaching out to Pastor Chris and Rev. Vernon again to come back and join us. Pastor Chris LOVED our liturgy and this time he has permission to talk as long as he'd like! 😊

Some community activities you might be interested in:

Nonviolence training at St. Augustine's next weekend. This is the training they offer to folks who may want to get involved with the Occupy or other Civil Disobedience Movements. <http://phoenixnonviolence.org/>

Phoenix Pride Festival Next Week

Days of Pride

Echo Magazine's Readers' Choice Awards is among several events in days before and after the Phoenix Pride festival. By Glenn Gullickson

Events encourage community collaboration

Events in the days leading up to and following the Phoenix Pride festival will celebrate the diversity of the community. Many of the events will raise money for community organizations.

The 10 Days of Pride events started in 2010 as part of Phoenix Pride's 30-year anniversary celebration. Brandi Sokolosky, executive director of Phoenix Pride, said the events allow community organizations to collaborate with Phoenix Pride and participate in Pride festivities.

"There are a lot of organizations that want to celebrate Pride," Sokolosky said. "This allows them to get involved, and their contributions make the community stronger."

Echo Magazine's Readers' Choice Awards to feature The Pübes (do you recognize the mug farthest right? That's our Cynthia. The band is one of the finalists for best band!)



Winners in 27 categories — ranging from outstanding bartender and DJ to leaders of political action and spirituality (***your Pastor is one of the finalists in the Spirituality/Worship Leadership category***)— will be announced during *Echo Magazine's* Readers' Choice Awards.

One of the 10 Days of Pride events, the awards ceremony will be April 19 at Copper Blues at CityScape in downtown Phoenix.

The event will include a performance by LGBT community favorite The Pübes, a lesbian rock band that was featured in an *Echo Magazine* cover story earlier this year.

Sway Events is handling the production of this year's awards as well as the ceremony.

Despite the proliferation of community awards, Gary Guerin, of Sway Events, said that the Readers' Choice Awards are coveted honors.

"There's a level of prestige that comes with *Echo's* Readers' Choice," Guerin said. "It's something that people aspire to win."

Evidence of that is the fact that about 500 nominations were submitted for the awards, according to Guerin. Within hours of posting the five nominees in each category, hundreds of votes were cast, he said.

Helena Grayson, of Sway, said that social media campaigns were conducted by some nominees before voting ended on April 4.

Grayson said that compressing the number of categories this year has led to some interesting match-ups. For example, she noted that the Outstanding Sporting Event category offers variety, from the RoadRunners Regional Rodeo to one n ten's kickball program.

Grayson said that the awards are a good reflection of what people in the community care about, noting that the one n ten youth services agency is a favorite among the nominees. "They've got a special place in everyone's heart," she said.

Among the categories attracting the most interest were the DJ and bartender competitions, Grayson said.

The awards party will start with about 30 minutes of mingling. Guerin estimated that the award presentations will take 60 to 90 minutes, followed by the performance by the Pübes.

There will be hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Prizes during the evening will include Pride VIP tickets.

Guerin said he likes Copper Blues as a venue for the party because the club's layout promotes a conversational atmosphere. The stage is unique since it's located behind the bar's beer taps, he said.

Echo Magazine's Readers' Choice Awards was developed in 2006 as a spin off from the publication's Pride of Phoenix Awards that had previously been presented at the Phoenix Pride festival. -E

VITAL STATISTICS

Echo Magazine's Readers' Choice Awards – It should be a fun time!

April 19; doors open at 7 p.m., program starts at 7:30 p.m.

Copper Blues

CityScape, 50 W. Jefferson St., Phoenix

Tickets: \$10

swayevents.com

Phoenix Pride and AZ Frontrunners 5k Fun Run and 3k Walk – in Tempe!

Marathoners, sprinters, joggers and walkers will participate in the participate in the 14th annual 5k Fun Run and 3k Walk organized by AZ Frontrunners.

The event will be April 22 at Moeur Park in Tempe, where those participating will be treated to scenic views of Tempe Towne Lake as they run or walk along the park's nature trails. Participants can bring their children or pets to the event.

Ken DeWald, president of the Arizona Frontrunners and Walkers, said the event introduces people to the social club and promotes healthy, active lifestyles in the LGBT community.

DeWald said the event has grown in popularity since it started. In 2011, 118 people participated.

First, second and third place female and male walkers and runners will receive medals. After the race, the club will host a brunch.

The Phoenix Pride Scholarship Program will receive \$5 from each entry fee.

A chapter of the International Front Runners, Arizona Frontrunners and Walkers started in 1999 with three runners. DeWald said it has grown to include about 200 members.

The club has two-mile walks and up to seven mile runs throughout the week at locations throughout the Valley.

VITAL STATISTICS

Phoenix Pride 5K Fun Run and 3K Walk

9 a.m. April 22

Moeur Park

715 N. Mill Ave., Tempe

Entry fee: \$15 includes commemorative event T-shirt and post-race snack food

azfrontrunners.com

The Coalition of Arizonans to Abolish the Death Penalty (CAADP) is a statewide organization that works to end the death penalty in Arizona. The **ANNUAL MEETING AND ABOLITIONIST OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION** is **APRIL 21**. The Keynote Speaker for the event is St. Teresa's pastor, **Rev. Kate Lehman**:

Reverend Kate Lehman, a faculty associate at ASU, as well as adjunct faculty at Mesa Community College. She also served 6 years as a member of the Judicial Performance Review Commission. Her talk, however, will be more personal as she speaks of the 2004 torture and murder of her stepdaughter Terra Parker and her family's five-year odyssey with the county attorney's office in which the family's requests for a plea-bargain for Terra's killer were ignored. Rev. Lehman says the experience taught her much about the nature of forgiveness.

For more info: http://azabolitionist.org/news/2012_04_annual_meeting.php



Did you ever wonder about our beautiful altar? Here's the story as told in the Community Christian brochure.

"Our Table..."

The Communion Table was created by Roman Franssen in 2002. The table base is solid marble, from the Sunshine Mine in Wickenburg, AZ. The pedestal is desert ironwood. The cruciform support for the tabletop is made in the shape of the St. Andrew's cross, the Patron Saint of Scotland and the Apostle known for bring others to Jesus. The tabletop is made of fine Italian glass. Its clear, blue-green tint reminds us of the baptismal waters through which we have been initiated into the Christian community. The Communion Table stands at the center of our sanctuary, the center of our worship and the center of our lives. Here we share the grace and love of God.

'The imperfections that reveal the inner parts are the most interesting places in the wood and stone, in people too.' – Roman Franssen, Wood Sculptor"