



## St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

180 Route 539, Whiting, NJ 08759

Phone: 732-350-2121, Fax: 732-350-6000

ssechurch@gmail.com

www.saintstephenswhiting.org

A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Rt. Reverend Dr. Sally J. French, Bishop

The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector

Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator

Geraldine Vergona, Treasurer

Esther Graham, Music Director

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

### Wardens and Vestry 2024

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

Roberta Mackey, Maryann Payne, Marge Pomykala

Bill Bodine, Blanche Dwonch, Kay Karlick

Tom Larson, Ann Solaequi, Geraldine Vergona

Joanne Smithson, Clerk

### Mission Statement

To proclaim the faith that our years have engendered: to use the diversity of our Episcopal experience while working toward a common goal; to teach the young about Jesus and to reach out and affect the lives of those in the community.

*"Wherefore by their fruits you shall know them." Matthew 7:20*

### Welcome to St. Stephen's Church!

We thank you for joining us for worship today. Please stay for coffee hour, and sign our guest book at the podium in the Narthex. If you are looking for a church home, you have just found it. We would love to have you at St. Stephen's. Arrangements for weddings and baptisms can be made by speaking directly with the Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector.

### To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

Please notify the church office 732-350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations. If it is an emergency you may also reach Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**MAY 5, 2024  
8 & 10 am**

**Save the Date on Upcoming Events**



<i>Hymnal</i>	<i>The Word of God</i>	<i>BCP</i>
561	Processional Hymn: “Come down, O Love Divine” Easter Acclamation	355
S280	Gloria Collect of the Day First Lesson: <i>Acts of the Apostles 10:44-48</i>	<i>Insert</i> <i>Insert</i> <i>Insert</i>
	<b>Psalm 98</b> Second Lesson: <i>1 John 5:1-6</i> Gradual: “Word of God, speak” (Lyrics below) Gospel: <i>John 15:9-17</i>	<i>Insert</i> <i>Insert</i> <i>Insert</i>
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i> The Nicene Creed Prayers of the People Form VI Confession and Absolution The Peace Blessing of the Garden ( <i>Rogation Sunday</i> ) Announcements Offertory Anthem Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”	358 392 360

**HOLY COMMUNION**

	Eucharistic Prayer D	372
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S140	Memorial Acclamation The Lord’s Prayer Breaking of the Bread	368 364
S152	Fraction Anthem Communion Hymns:	
325	“Let us break bread together”	
455	“O love of God, how strong and true”	
488	“Be thou my vision ”	
	Post Communion Prayer Blessing	365
344	Recessional: “Lord, dismiss us” Dismissal	

*Word of God speak  
 Won’t you pour down like rain  
 Washing my eyes to see  
 Your majesty  
 To be still and know  
 That You’re in this place  
 Please let me stay and rest  
 In Your holiness  
 word of God speak*

**WOMAN’S BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, gathering on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the each month at 11am. For info contact: *Roberta Mackey at 917-696-6863*

**CHOIR PRACTICE**

Please see *Esther Graham* if you are interested in being a part of our joyous hymns and songs.

**HEALING SERVICES**

Join us every Thursday at 10 am for an experience that will help you find comfort, support, and spiritual healing. We welcome everyone with open hearts and look forward to sharing an enriching time with you.

**RADA ORDERS**

Contact Joy Frey and use the catalog to order Rada as soon as possible.

**Bowling Ministry**

We are proud and pleased to announce that **Fence Financial, The Heritage Restaurant and Nona’s Place** are now proud sponsors of our upcoming **KOH** tournament at Thunderbowl Lanes Wrightstown NJ!

**OSL**

Our next meeting is May 9th after the 11am healing service

**VESTRY MEETING**

Monday, May 20th @ 10am.

**Whiting Garden Club meeting**

Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10am. This is the last meeting of this year. More details will follow on the speaker/program.

**English Tea**

Stefanie is organizing the May 16th English tea. She will be contacting people to help make sandwiches, desserts, etc.

The tables will be set on Wednesday, May 15 at 9am. Clean-up will happen after tea on Thursday after 4pm. If you can help and wish to speak to Stefanie, call her at (732)278-4846.





**CHAPEL CLOTHESLINE** ~ We are now accepting **SPRING** clothes **ONLY** in **TOP** condition, (clean, with no missing buttons, tears or stains). Also, continue to use the **FOUR BINS** in our parking lot for *out of season clothing, all men's wear*, and other items. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project. Please save donations for September Dignified Junk Sale until summer.

Sincerely, Linda Chiappetta

\$ Dollar \$  
**AUCTION**

Brand new item's are needed for our dollar auction coming this summer, on **June 15th**. Please drop your items off at the Church office and label them "For \$ Auction". Or give them directly to Tom Larson. Thank you all, a for your ongoing support in contributing to our events here at St. Stephen's.

You can call the office for details at 732-350-2121



ST STEPHEN'S PRESENTS

**SINGLES**

**BOWLING**

**SPECTACULAR**

**SATURDAY, June 8th 2024**

**\$45 ENTRY**

**AT 02:00 PM**

**Thunderbowl Lanes**

423 East Main St. Wrightstown NJ 08562

Open to All adult men, women and junior bowlers

**Trophies and Medals Awarded for 1,2 & 3 Places**

For more Information contact Bill Bodine at 848-210-4206

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**Collect of the Day**

☪ God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 10:44-48**

While Peter was still saying this, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, "Can anyone forbid water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

# Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

- 1 **S**ing to the LORD a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.



## Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month– January 11th, after the Healing Service.

### Prayer to send out LEMs with the Sacrament:

**Celebrant:** N. we send you out to share Communion this week with those who have been entrusted to your care.

**People:** May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

**Celebrant:** Continues with a closing prayer.



### ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines	1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 am
Aristicare	1st Monday of each month at 2:00 pm
The Arbors	2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm
The Pines	3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm

## ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN

~ is in need of additional members. The Prayer Chain is a dedicated group of parishioners who will pray for any who are in need. If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Greta Pearl at 732-350-7584 for details. Greta is the contact when placing, on the Prayer Chain, your name or the names of family, neighbors, or friends who would like prayers for healing, comfort, or any other purpose.

## TECH THURSDAY



Tech Thursday meets monthly. Keep an eye out for our new dates to come. Bring your tablet, computer, phone, i pad, etc. to the meeting. Estelle Pizzuti and/or Bill Bodine will be able assist you.

## ONLINE SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. See our schedule of services located online at [www.ststephenswhitingnj.org](http://www.ststephenswhitingnj.org)



A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2024 - sign up! Everyone is so grateful for the delicious food that you share, your help, and they love chatting after the services. Any questions, contact *Stefanie* at (732) 350-2904



## Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws

Days and Hours of Operation are:

Tuesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

Wednesday 10 AM until 12:00 PM

**Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws** is made up of members of the **St. Stephen's Episcopal Church** community and other volunteers who assist in maintaining our pantry, provide food for the sick, the hungry and the needy. The food pantry is here to help those who have minimal funds to work with and come to us when they have a specific need for food.

The **Our Daily Bread Pantry and Hungry Paws** through very generous donations is also able to provide pet food for dogs and cats. For further information please call:

**Jim Jados, Director, Food Pantry at (732) 408-5948.**

## *A Reading from the First letter of 1 John 5:1-6*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is a child of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is he who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood.

## *A Reading From the Gospel According to John 15:9-17*

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. This I command you, to love one another.

## Thunderbowl Lanes in Wrightstown NJ

Presented by St. Stephen's, Bowling Ministry  
Whiting, NJ



# King of the Hill

## TOURNAMENT

Sunday May 26th at 4pm

Cash Prizes, Medals and Trophies Awarded  
1st and 2nd place, \$50 entry fee

**Dont be a Spare, See You There!**

For more information please  
contact Bill Bodine at 848-210-4206  
or wbodine3@gmail.com

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR

**28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**

## **BLESSING OF THE BIKES and Father Paul's Retirement**

**SUNDAY MAY 5th 2024**

**HOURS 12 TO 4 RAIN OR SHINE**

BIKES WILL BE BLESSED AT 2 pm

BY: **FATHER PAUL VAN SANT**

Donation \$15 per person

Proceeds to benefit St. Stephen's Ministry

**NO CHARGE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10**

Ticket price includes Pork, Barbeque, Non-Alcoholic Beverages,

Family's Welcome, Trophies

There will be a Bike Show for Best Bike at the Blessing

Our Address is

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

180 RT 539, WHITING, NJ 08759

For info on where to purchase tickets & directions call the Church at:

732-350-2121 (Mon-Thurs 10am to 2pm)



*Welcome to St. Stephen's*

The liturgy today continues to be concerned with exploring the consequences of Christ's resurrection and our new life in him through baptism and Eucharist.

Today's gospel reading is a portion of the discourses between Jesus and the disciples on the evening before his crucifixion. Here Jesus talks about the union between himself and the Father. This union is shared with us so that we can say with St. Paul, "not I, but Christ in me." The source of that union is the Holy Spirit given us in Baptism. The ultimate result of this union is peace; in Hebrew, *Shalom*. *Shalom* is the restored unity of the creation with God, and the resultant reconciliation between all peoples.

In the first reading, Paul, Silas, Timothy, and Luke come to Philippi, the first time the gospel moves from Asia Minor to Europe. There Paul encounters a woman who worshipped God although she was a Gentile. After hearing Paul proclaim the resurrection of Jesus, she and her household were baptized and her house became Paul's center of ministry there and quite likely the home of the church in that city.

It is not the created universe that is the ultimate destiny of the human race but the new, perfect city of God's Kingdom. John, in today's reading from the Revelation, envisions the perfection and peace of that Kingdom.

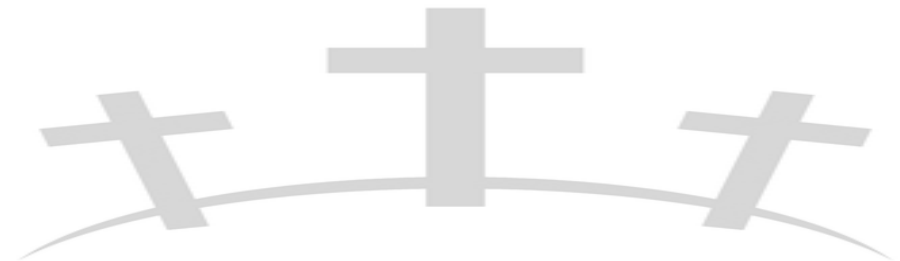
*Shalom*—the peace and wholeness of God's Spirit—is our destiny and our present reality. The peace and unity of God's reign is revealed in the inclusiveness of the church as people of every race and nation are called by God. In the Eucharist, we have the foretaste of the new life in the holy city prepared for us by God.

*From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.*  
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### *Serving in the Liturgy today:*

Lector 8:00 am  
LEM 8:00 am  
Altar Guild 8:00 am  
Ushers 8:00 am  
Lector 10:00 am  
LEM 10:00 am  
Altar Guild 10:00am  
Ushers 10:00 am

*Joann Smithson*  
*Richard Smithson, Joann Smithson*  
*Linda Chiappetta*  
*Glenn Mortimer, Mary Storey, Bill Bodine*  
*Ricky Minix*  
*Susan Clarke, Robert Virtue, Kay Karlick*  
*Beverly Larson, Karen Marou*  
*Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson*



### *Sanctuary Candle*

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to  
The Glory of God*

*Sans Memorial*

### *Altar Flowers*

*Altar Flowers are given to  
the Glory of God*

*Sans Memorial*

