



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 Rt. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, (Retired Bishop)

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

Gerrie Vergona, Treasurer

Esther Graham, Music Director

Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Wardens and Vestry 2023

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden

Peter Quigley, Property Warden

Shelagh Bluni, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano

Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue

Bill Bodine, Kay Karlick, Richard Smithson

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.



Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25)

You shall be
HOLY,
for I the
LORD your God
am
HOLY.

Leviticus 19:2, NRSV

Hymnal	The Word of God	BCP
336	Proclamation Hymn: “Come with us so blessed Jesus” Patriotic Hymn: 717, V4 Opening Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18	Insert
	Psalm 1	Insert
	Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Insert
	Gradual: “Word of God Speak” (lyrics below)	
	Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46	Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i>	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People Form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	359
	The Peace	
	Announcements	
	Offertory Anthem	
	Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”	

HOLY COMMUNION

	Eucharistic Prayer A	361
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S133	Memorial Acclamation	363
	The Lord’s Prayer	364
	Breaking of the Bread	
S152	Fraction Anthem	
	Communion Hymns	
325	“Let us break bread together”	
517	“How lovely is thy dwelling place”	
581	“Where charity and love prevail”	
	Post Communion Prayer	
	Blessing	365
551	Recessional: “Rise up ye saints of God”	
	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*

WOMANS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, 1ST & 3RD Mondays 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.

VESTRY MEETING

Monday, November 27th @ 10am.

WHITING GARDEN CLUB

Wednesday November 1st at 10AM

OSL WILL BE MEETING

On Thursday November 9th after the Healing Service

THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Monday, November 13th @10 AM

PINELANDS SYMPHONIC BAND CONCERT

Sunday November 19th, 2pm Enjoy, Sit back, and listen to the sounds of the season, with holiday music and memorable classics. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased at the door or in our Church office from Monday—Thursday 9-2pm 180 Route 539, Whiting, NJ 08759 In our Parish Hall.

FELLOWSHIP & FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

We are having our Fellowship and Fundraising Meeting Today, Sunday, October 29th 10AM Coffee Hour.

Operation Christmas Child

shoeboxes are due by November 4th

Shoeboxes and information are in the coffee room.

Any questions, see Barbara Marshall.



ONLINE CHURCH 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

SAVE THE DATE For Operation Christmas Child



Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are available in the coffee room. Forms, and information tell you how to fill your shoebox and what to do with them. Return them filled to church with your checks and they will be sent on to the next location to be shipped where they are needed.

shoeboxes are due by November 4th

School supplies are out and needed for all children. The items like notebooks, markers, pencils, sharpeners are all on sale for back to school so this is a good time to collect items. Any questions, see Barbara Marshall.

Holiday Craft and Vendor Fair

Thank you for supporting the ECW Craft and Vendor Fair, Bake Sale, Kitchen, Treasure Auction and 50/50. A report will be in next week's bulletin.

Memorial Garden For Pets

(Remains Only)

For all who are looking for a special place to lay your beloved pets to rest.

Please contact our office Monday–Thursday 9am–1:30pm for more info

(732) 350-2121

ADVENT FOOD DRIVE

A list of non-perishable dry, canned and boxed or bagged foods is available in the Narthex with a sign-up sheet for our ADVENT food Drive. Fill your boxes, and if you have loose items, there will be open boxes are in the Church on the back pew for you to fill. Any questions please call 732-350-2121 for info.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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 Book of Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18

And the Lord said to Moses, “Say to all the congregation of the people of Israel, You shall be holy; for I the Lord your God am holy.

“You shall do no injustice in judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. You shall not go up and down as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand forth against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason with your neighbor, lest you bear sin because of him. You shall not take vengeance or bear any grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.



Psalm 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

1 **H**appy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *

nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *

and they meditate on his law day and night.

3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,

bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.

4 It is not so with the wicked; *

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *

nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *

but the way of the wicked is doomed.



CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE ~ Sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting **Fall and Winter** 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. Our winter clothes are now on clearance sale. We are very appreciative of your kind donations to, and purchases from, this fundraising project.

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.

COFFEE HOUR



A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2023 - 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



TECH THURSDAY

Tech Thursday meets monthly. But will be cancelled in November due to Thanksgiving. Our next meeting will be on December 21st at 12:30pm. Bring your tablet, computer, phone, i pad, etc. to the meeting.

Estelle Pizzuti and Bill Bodine will be able assist you.



ANNUAL QUIGLEY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Save the date! Friday December 15th at 6pm.

Your invited to
the Annual Quigley Christmas Party.

More information to come



Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month— November 9th, 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



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.**

THANK YOU

Thanks to everyone that contributed to Crop Walk--so far we have collected nearly \$400. \$ can be collected into November. Just mark your envelope for Crop Walk and put it in the collection plate, or give it to Stefanie. The UTO or United Thanks Offering has collected about \$125 to date. This too can be collected into November. Please mark your envelope for UTO, and place it in the collection plate, or hand it to Stefanie. UTO envelopes are on the back table of the church and in the coffee room. The Boscov's Friends helping Friends cards sold \$190 for our Treasury. Thank you for caring for others and our church.

A reading from Paul's First letter to the Thessalonians 2:1-8

For you yourselves know, brethren, that our visit to you was not in vain; but though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the face of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from error or uncleanness, nor is it made with guile; but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please men, but to please God who tests our hearts. For we never used either words of flattery, as you know, or a cloak for greed, as God is witness; nor did we seek glory from men, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse taking care of her children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 22:34-46

But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they came together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question, to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, saying, "What do you think of the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

'The Lord said to my Lord,

Sit at my right hand,

till I put thy enemies under thy feet'?

If David thus calls him Lord, how is he his son?" And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did any one dare to ask him any more questions.



Welcome to St. Stephen's

As we continue to read through the Gospel according to Matthew, we hear another of the confrontations between Jesus and the Pharisees. Last week they tried to discredit him with the people and the government; today they test his orthodoxy. Jesus answers their question in correct Jewish form and then counters with a question to them. This passage is leading toward the Christian belief that Jesus is more than a descendent of King David; he is the Son of God.

The first reading is a portion of the giving of the Law. In it, love and faithfulness toward God is to be expressed by love and care for human beings. This is the same principle that Jesus upholds in the Gospel reading.

In the second reading, Paul continues his greetings to the Thessalonian church, reminding them of his original visit to them and of his love and affection for them.

In the Eucharist, we experience the dual nature of our own existence: related to God and yet human. We are not simply living at the human level but through baptism are bearers of divinity. In the mundane elements of common food and drink, we meet God. Likewise, in our lives our human nature is permeated by God's nature. This is the reason we can pray; this is the reason we are sent into the world to minister to others.

Serving in the Liturgy today:

October 22, 2023

Lector 8:00 am	Susan Quigley
LEM 8:00 am	Susan Clarke, Bill Bodine
Altar Guild 8:00 am	Linda Chiappetta
Ushers 8:00 am	Glenn Mortimer, Mary Storey, Bill Bodine
Lector 10:00 am	Ricki Minix
LEM 10:00 am	Susan Clarke, Bob Virtue, Kay Karlick
Altar Guild 10:00am	Beverly Larson, Karen Mauro
Ushers 10:00 am	Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson

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

This candle burns

*In Loving Memory
of those who are not here today, but
who are present in our hearts.*

Altar Flowers *Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God*

*In Memory of
Diane Jacobs
by St. Stephen's Ministry*

