

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. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, 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 2022

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden
Peter Quigley, Property Warden
Debbie Fisher, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano
Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue
Kay Karlick, Tom Larson, Ken Seda
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.

Christmas Day



HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

8 & 10:15 AM

Hymnal	The Word of God	BCP
87	Processional Hymn: <i>“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”</i>	
	Open Acclamation	355
	Opening Sentence	
S280	<i>Gloria</i>	356
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: Isaiah 52: 7-10	Insert
	Psalm 98	Insert
	Second Lesson: Hebrew 1: 1-12	Insert
	Gradual: <i>“Word of God Speak” (lyrics below)</i>	
	Gospel: John 1: 1-14	Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i>	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People <i>(Form III)</i>	381
	Confession and Absolution	360
	The Peace	332
	Offertory:	
	Doxology: <i>“All things come of Thee, O Lord”</i>	
	HOLY COMMUNION	
	Eucharistic Prayer “B”	367
S112	Sursum Corda	
S113	Sanctus	
S136	Memorial Acclamation	368
	The Lord’s Prayer	364
S152	Breaking of the Bread	
S157	Fraction Anthem	
	Communion Hymns;	
325	<i>“Let Us Break Bread Together”</i>	
101	<i>“Away In A Manger”</i>	
81	<i>”Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming”</i>	
	Post Communion Prayer	366
91	<i>“While Shepherds watched their flocks”</i>	
	Blessing	
	Announcements	
100	Closing Hymn: <i>“Joy to the World”</i>	
	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*

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am, for info contact : *Roberta Mackey at 917-696-6863*

CHOIR PRACTICE

10am every Wednesday. Please see *Esther Graham* if you are interested in being a part of our joyous hymns and songs.

HEALING SERVICES

Thursdays at 10:00 am

ORDER OF ST. LUKE

2nd Thursday of each month, January 12th - after Healing Service

VESTRY MEETING

Monday, January 23rd @ 10AM

THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Monday, January 9th @10AM

COME ATTEND ONE OF OUR EVENTS
 Visit our website at;
<https://www.ststephenswhitingnj.org/new-events>
 for more information on upcoming event in and around our community.

OUR COMMITTEE TO HELP SELECT OUR NEXT BISHOP IS:

Stefanie Bodine, Chair

Bill Bodine, Susan Clarke, Michelle Winfrey, Bob Virtue and Greg Hartline.

The meeting will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2023



ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. Compline is now on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** at 7PM on **YouTube** and **Zoom**. All are welcome! COME AND SEE!!!

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting is on January 29, 2023.

Service 10:15 AM

The meeting will follow with our International Potluck luncheon.

Please bring your favorite dish to share with all. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve - 3:30 pm Carol Sing

4:00 pm. Choral Eucharist

7:00 pm. Holy Eucharist with Carols

9:00 pm. Holy Eucharist with Guitar

Christmas Day - 8:00 am. Feast of the Nativity, Said Eucharist

10:15 am. Feast of the Nativity, Sung Eucharist

THANK YOU!

David and Diane Jacobs, for your generous donation of two Christmas trees with lights to St. Stephen's.

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.**

Collect of the Day



Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born [this day] of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever... *Amen.*

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains

are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,

who brings good news,

who announces salvation,

who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;

for in plain sight they see

the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;

for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;

and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

The LORD has proclaimed
to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion,
"See, your salvation comes;





Psalm 98

Cantate Domino

- 1 Sing 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.



Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,
"You are my Son;
today I have begotten you"? Or again,



CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE ~ Sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting **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 Summer 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.

CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS ~ Caregivers volunteers, is a faith base organization that offer assistance to the elderly. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Caregivers at 732-505-2273 Ext 213

COFFEE HOUR

help wanted

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

Legacy, Estate and Will planning

With a successful stewardship season behind us now, our focus turns to Legacy, Estate and Will planning which will make stewardship a year round effort! Mark your calendar for next month as the Legacy Team will meet on Sunday January 15th after the later service in the parish hall! Hall. We encourage and invite anyone who is interested in participating and helping out on the Legacy Team! The objective is to prepare and plan for the St. Stephen's Legacy Summit in the Spring 2023. We are confident for a very strong turnout and a huge plus for the church! Everyone needs this kind of service and opportunity to plan their legacies for themselves and their families.

For further information please contact
Bill Bodine - Legacy Chairman at 848-210-4206.



Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month--January 12th, 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. STEPHENS'S CHRISTMAS CARD



Sign our church Christmas Card in the Narthex--save your postage and buying cards to share with your church friends and family.

Daughters of the British Empire



The (DBE) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit American society of women of British or Commonwealth of Nations birth, heritage or ancestry. We share and promote our heritage while supporting local charities and our senior living facilities across the United States.

To learn more about our local chapter, here in Ocean County, please email *Joan Saunders* – njstateorganizer@gmail.com

"I will be his Father,
and he will be my Son"?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
"Let all God's angels worship him."

Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,
and his servants flames of fire."

But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you

with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And,

"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;

like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.

But you are the same,

and your years will never end."

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.





Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Today we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We welcome people of every race and tongue and faith to this celebration. We invite you to participate fully and to join us in rejoicing at the birth of the one who is the fulfillment of the deepest and best hopes of all people and all faiths.

Luke describes Jesus' birth with the song of angels and the shepherds who were the first to learn of that birth and the first to come to see the infant. In those days shepherds were a despised group rejected by most people. Luke's inclusion of them in the story stresses that God has come for all people, high and low, rich and poor.

Centuries earlier, Isaiah had foreseen the coming of the Messiah as the establishment of God's reign. This event would summon all people into God's Kingdom and make of them "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord." Paul, writing to Titus, tells us that in the water of baptism we too have been made part of that people and given eternal life. In story, song, word, and sacrament we celebrate the coming of God into the world and renew our own place in the story of God's salvation of all of humanity.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year. Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.



Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	Stefanie Bodine
LEM 8:00 am	Bill Bodine, Richard Smithson, JoAnn Smithson
Altar Guild 8:00 am	Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro
Ushers 8:00 am	Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson
Lector 10:15 am	Valerie Thomson
LEM 10:15 am	Robert Virtue, Susan Clarke, Kay Karlick
Altar Guild 10:15 am	Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro
Ushers 10:15 am	Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson



Sanctuary Candle

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

*In honor of
Claire Wolpert's birthday
from Stefanie and Bill Bodine*

*In Honor of
Baby Jesus's Birthday
from Bill & Stefanie Bodine*



Altar Flowers

*Altar Flowers are given to
the Glory of God*

*In Honor of
Baby Jesus's Birthday
from Bill & Stefanie Bodine*

*In Memory of
Park & Georgia Steele,
Hope & Ernest Clarke Jr.,
Charles & Janice Steele,
Virginia & Ernest Clarke III
by Susan Clarke*

*In Memory of
Departed loved ones,
by Raymond and Mary Storey*

*In Honor of
Jennifer Scott, from Penny Scott*

*In Memory of
Joan Lentkowski-Axon
from Robert Axon*

