



## St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

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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.



## *Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Proper 11*

*I will praise You,  
O Lord my God,  
with all my heart,  
And I will glorify  
Your name  
forevermore.*

*Psalm 86:12*



**EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PROPER 11  
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**JULY 23, 2023  
8 & 10 am**

**Save the Date on Upcoming Events**

<b>Hymnal</b>	<b>The Word of God</b>	
482	Processional Hymn: "Lord of all hopefulness" Patriotic Hymn: 717, V4 Opening Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: <b>Isaiah 44:6-8</b> <b>Psalm 86</b>	Insert
	Second Lesson: <b>Romans 8:12-25</b> Gradual: "Word of God, speak" (Lyrics below)	Insert
	Gospel: <b>Matthew 13:1-9,18-23</b>	Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i> Prayers of the People Form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	393
	The Peace Announcements Offertory Anthem "God bless America" Doxology: "All things come of thee O Lord"	

***HOLY COMMUNION***

	Eucharistic Prayer A	361
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S136	Memorial Acclamation The Lord's Prayer	363 364
	Breaking of the Bread	
S152	Fraction Anthem Communion Hymns	
325	"Let us break bread together"	
423	"Immortal Invisible God only Wise"	
302	"Father, we thank Thee Who has planted"	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
365	Recessional: "Come Thou, Almighty King"	
	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-12:30pm  
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. We will return to practice in September.

**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.

**OSL WILL BE MEETING**

On Thursday August 10th, after the Healing Service



**THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

Monday, August 14th @10 AM

**VESTRY MEETING**

Monday, July 24 @ 10am.

**PLEDGE CARDS**

If you filled in a pledge card, your envelopes are in the Narthex on the shelf, right side before you enter the church. If you need envelopes, see our treasurer, Gerrie Vergona.

**TECH THURSDAY**

Tech Thursday meets monthly. Our next meeting will be on **August 17**.



## 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](http://www.ststephenswhitingnj.org)

## Memorial Garden For Pets

(Cremains 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

## VISITING CLERGY

On Sunday, August 6, we will welcome the Rev. Karen Mitchell to celebrate at both of our services while Fr. Paul is on vacation. On Sunday, August 20, we will welcome the Rev. Mark Van Sant to celebrate at both services. while Fr. Paul is on vacation. On Sundays, August 13, and 27, Stefanie Bodine will conduct the service of Morning Prayer, with Susan Clarke as our preacher, and Bill Bodine on tech. We hope you will join us in-person or online. We also hope to have guest soloists at the offertory, as well as coffee hour after each service. COME AND SEE!

## ANNUAL FLEA MARKET

**Saturday, September 2nd, at 8am-12pm**, will our annual Flea Market here at St. Stephen's. Starting in August, we will be accepting items. Please bring in gently used and new items such as household items, small furniture, crafts, collectables, tools, linens, electronics. Please leave items on our Parish Hall Stage, across from the kitchen. Not in the entrance or foyer for safety reasons.

Questions call the office at 732-350-2121 (More details to come)

## *Collect of the Day*

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever... *Amen.*

## *A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 44:6-8*

Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel

and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

“I am the first and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.

Who is like me? Let him proclaim it,

let him declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?

Let them tell us what is yet to be.

Fear not, nor be afraid;

have I not told you from of old and declared it?

And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?

There is no Rock; I know not any.”

**Psalm 86:11-17**

***Inclina, Domine***

- 11** Teach me your way, O LORD,  
and I will walk in your truth; \*  
knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.
- 12** I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, \*  
and glorify your Name for evermore.
- 13** For great is your love toward me; \*  
you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.
- 14** The arrogant rise up against me, O God,  
and a band of violent men seeks my life; \*  
they have not set you before their eyes.
- 15** But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion, \*  
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.
- 16** Turn to me and have mercy upon me; \*  
give your strength to your servant;  
and save the child of your handmaid.
- 17** Show me a sign of your favor,  
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; \*  
because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.



***A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans 8:12-25***

So then, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is the Spirit himself bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.



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

**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**  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

**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.**



## Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month– August 10th, 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



## TECH THURSDAY



Tech Thursday meets monthly. Our next meeting will be on **August 17 12:30pm** . Bring your tablet, computer, phone, i pad, etc. to the meeting. Estelle Pizzuti and Bill Bodine will assist you.

## ECW

If you missed the ECW Meeting on June 1, but would still like to share a roll/rolls of paper towels, detergent, or gift cards with Providence House, leave them for Stefanie on her desk, or on the back pew by the tech table

## CPR Class



At St Stephen's on Monday, August 7 at 10am. The cost is \$25. The \$ is due on the day of the class. The instructional materials are from the American Heart Association and we will practice on CPR dummies. Contact Stefanie at (732) 350-2904 if you plan to come. 6-30 people may participate.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in travail together until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

### A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

Another parable he put before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the householder came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No; lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “He who sows the good seed is the Son of man; the field is the world, and the good seed means the sons of the kingdom; the weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and throw them into the furnace of fire; there men will weep and gnash their teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.





Welcome to St. Stephen's

Throughout the Bible, God uses food as a primary means of calling the people together and of revealing the divine Presence to them. Today we have Matthew's account of the feeding of the 5,000. For early Christians, this account's importance lay not so much in the miraculous multiplying of the loaves and fishes as in its resemblance to the Eucharist, their own way (and ours) of experiencing Jesus' continuing presence in their midst.

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah brings a vision of God's renewed relationship with the people. The vision used the Old Testament's frequent image of that relationship as God calls all people to eat and drink in fellowship with God and each other.

Having reached the conclusion of his discussion of the glory of God's grace, Paul now tries to deal with the fact that some Jews have not accepted Jesus as the Messiah. Nevertheless, God's promises to them remain.

Religious meals are one of the universal expressions of human religion. All the insights of God's long love affair with humanity are summed up in these meals. Given deeper and fuller meaning by the Passover of Israel and finally used by Jesus to interpret the meaning of his death and resurrection, the Eucharist becomes for us the fullest and most complete revelation of God's love and of His salvation.

*From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.*

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## Serving in the Liturgy today:

July 23, 2023

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

### Sanctuary Candle

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

*In Honor of  
Stefanie Bodine's Birthday  
by Stefanie & Bill Bodine*

*In Memory of  
Carol Torres  
by Fr. Paul and Priscilla Van Sant*

### Altar Flowers

*Altar Flowers are given to  
the Glory of God*

*In Memory of  
Stephen Casale  
by Joseph Graff*

*In Memory of  
Harry Tomkins, Kathy Molnar & Judy  
DeYoung by Ruth Molnar*

