



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.



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

The Last Sunday after Pentecost

Crist the King

(Proper 29)



Christ The King

Hymnal

544 Processional Hymn: “Jesus Shall Reign Where’re The Sun ”
Patriotic Hymn: 717, V4
Opening Acclamation
S102 Trisagion
Collect of the Day
First Lesson: **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24**
Psalm 95
Second Lesson: **Ephesians 1:15-23**
Gradual: “Word of God Speak” (lyrics below)
Gospel: **Matthew 25:14-30**
Sermon — *The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.*
The Nicene Creed
Prayers of the People Form VI
Confession and Absolution
The Peace
Announcements
Offertory Anthem
Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”

The Word of God

355
Insert
Insert
Insert
Insert
358
392
359

BCP

355
Insert
Insert
Insert
Insert

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”
477 “All praise to Thee”
486 “Hosannah to the living Lord”
Post Communion Prayer
Blessing
616 Recessional: “Hail to the Lord’s anointed”
Dismissal

365

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 December 6th at 10AM

OSL WILL BE MEETING

On Thursday December 14th after the Healing Service

STEWARDSHIP

We hope to discuss and plan for more great opportunities for the coming year during our **Stewardship Fire Side Chat on Sunday, December 10th** after the 10am service. Hope to see you there.



BOWLING COMMITTEE MEETING

We would like to come together to put the final touches and brush up on any last minute ideas or opportunities for our upcoming BOWL-A-THON. We hope to see you there, Sunday 26th, after the 10am service.

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.**

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

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.

All items will be blessed on December 5th at the Altar. Thank you for caring!

Advent Bible Study

Join us for our Advent Bible study on

Wednesday's November 28th, Dec 6, 13, 20th at 11am, as we traverse the writings of Magrey R. deVega in his book titled "Awaiting the Already".

Contact the church office for info 732-350-2121

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

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A reading from the Prophet of Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

“For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when some of his sheep have been scattered abroad, so will I seek out my sheep; and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the fountains, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and upon the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on fat pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the crippled, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will watch over; I will feed them in justice.

Psalm 95:1-7a



Venite, exultemus

- 1 **C**ome, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
- 2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.
- 3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.
- 4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.
- 6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.
- 7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.



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  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

Memorial Garden For Pets
 Our First Service is on November 28th at 11am
 Come and join us
 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

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– December 14th, 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



A reading from the first letter to the Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power in us who believe, according to the working of his great might which he accomplished in Christ when he raised him from the dead and made him sit at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come; and he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fulness of him who fills all in all.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 25:14-30

For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.'

He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'



Helping Seniors navigate the Medicare arena for 10+ years.

Contact us for info and any questions you may have

106 Union Ave Manasquan, NJ 08736

info@seniormomentsmedicare.com

A CHRISTMAS PRO-AM BOWL -A-THON on

SUNDAY DECEMBER 3rd From 2-5pm At

THUNDERBIRD LANES

**640 East Bay Ave,
MANAHAWKIN, NJ 08050**



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, iPad, etc. to the meeting.



Estelle Pizzuti and Bill Bodine will be able assist you.



Serving in the Liturgy today:

November 26, 2023

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Susan Quigley</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Susan Clarke, Bill Bodine</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Beverly Larson, Karen Mouro</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Mary Storey, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:00 am	<i>Ricki Minix</i>
LEM 10:00 am	<i>Susan Clarke, Bill Bodine, Dottie Kaster</i>
Altar Guild 10:00am	<i>Beverly Larson, Karen Mouro</i>
Ushers 10:00 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>



Today is the final Sunday of the Church Year on which we celebrate the kingship of Christ. Since last Advent, we have been reading the Gospel according to Matthew on most Sundays. In this final reading from the Gospel of Matthew we have Jesus' description of the final judgment. Those who will be welcomed into his kingdom are those who show their love to Christ by caring for the outcast and helpless.

The prophet Ezekiel, centuries before Christ, foresaw the coming of the Shepherd-King, sent by God to his people. This kingship would be one of caring love and of peace to all the human race.

In writing the Corinthian church, Paul sees a greater and more complete picture of the reign of Christ. It is not just of Earth, nor only of the human race, that Christ is King. All the creation is to be brought under his rule, so that in Christ all may be presented whole and redeemed to God.

Our gatherings for worship are meant to be points of departure for us to move into the world in active works of ministry to the hungry, the helpless, the imprisoned, the lonely, the sick, and the dying. The reign of Christ must begin with members of his Body the church making him known in the world, especially to the least of his brothers and sisters.

Sanctuary Candle

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

This candle burns

***In Loving Memory
of Luitgardis Rotsaert
by Bill & Stefanie Bodine***

***In Honor of
Bill and Stefanie Bodine's
2nd wedding Anniversary***

Altar Flowers

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

These flowers are placed

***In Loving Memory of
John & Doris Dilts, Mom & Dad
by Linda Webb***

***In Loving Memory
of Luitgardis Rotsaert
by Bill & Stefanie Bodine***

***In Honor of
Bill and Stefanie Bodine's***

