



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.



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

(Proper 14)

Morning Prayer



**Praise The Lord
Good Morning**

Save the Date on Upcoming Events

Hymnal MORNING PRAYER

390 Processional: "Praise To The Lord Almighty"

Opening Sentence

Confession of Sin

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Venite

Psalm 85

First Lesson: **1 Kings 19:9-18**

Canticle 9

Second Lesson: **Romans 10:5-15**

Canticle 13

Gradual: *Word of God Speak*

The Holy Gospel: **Matthew 14:22-33**

Sermon: *Susan L. Clarke, M. Div.*

Apostles' Creed

Offertory

Solo

THE PRAYERS

The Lord's Prayer

Suffrages "A"

Collect for the day

Prayers of the People: **Form III**

The General Thanksgiving

Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

Concluding Prayer

Announcements

398 Recessional: "I Sing The Almighty Power of God"

Dismissal

BCP

79

80

82

Insert

Insert

86

Insert

90

Insert

96

97

97

387

101

102

102

*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 September 14th, after the Healing Service

THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

Monday, August 14th @10 AM

VESTRY MEETING

Monday, September 25th @ 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.

UTO INGATHERING AND ANNUAL MEETING

The Diocesan ECW Annual Meeting and UTO Ingathering has a date and location
change. It will be held on Saturday, October 21 at 10AM at Holy Innocents Episco-
pal Church in Beach Haven. The Rev. Dr. Caroline Carson, the UTO Co-Chair will
be our host. Bishop Sally will be attending this in person event. This is where the \$
from the Blue Boxes is collected. The UTO (Blue Boxes) will be in the Narthex after
the Fair. More details will follow.

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

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

VISITING CLERGY

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!

SAVE THE DATE For Operation Christmas Child

It's hard to believe, but the Fall is right around the Corner. Shoeboxes and written material have been ordered from Samaritan's Purse. They will be available in September for those who wish to participate by filling one or more Shoeboxes for needy children in the USA and around the world.

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.

A complete list of items needed will be available soon.



Collect of the Day

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; 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 first book of Kings 19:9-18

And there he came to a cave, and lodged there; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the people of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away." And he said, "Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the people of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

And the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria; and Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel; and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. And him who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay; and him who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

Psalm 85:8-13

Benedixisti, Domine

8 *I* will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.

10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.

13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet



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

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 furni-
ture, 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)



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. Bring your tablet, computer, phone, i pad, etc. to the meeting. Estelle Pizzuti and Bill Bodine will assist you.



100 years of blessings

for

Marjorie Redfern

(Aug 17, 2023)



(Rescheduled date)



At St Stephen’s on **Wednesday September 13th** 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.

A reading from the Paul’s Letter to the Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, “Who will ascend into heaven?” (that is, to bring Christ down) or “Who will descend into the abyss?” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and bestows his riches upon all who call upon him. For, “every one who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved.”

But how are men to call upon him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher? And how can men preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach good news!”

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 14:22-33

Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying, “Take heart, it is I; have no fear.”

And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “O man of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”



Welcome to St. Stephen's

In today's liturgy, we are confronted with some of Jesus' hardest words. As he traveled toward Jerusalem, certain of the great crisis which lay ahead, Jesus set forth the serious nature of discipleship. He referred to his approaching death as his "baptism." He revealed that faithfulness to God would produce opposition and division.

God's message to an unfaithful people through the prophet Jeremiah is that his word comes as hard truth. It will lay bare lies and deceit. It demands that those who speak for God speak truth, even though the message may be hard to bear.

In the second reading today, we are assured that regardless of the opposition and division which faithfulness to God may bring, we have hope. That hope is based first on the record of God's faithful people in the past, but is based above all on the record of Jesus. The "cloud of witnesses" of the past is now joined and led by Jesus "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

As we gather, we are indeed surrounded by the witness of those in ages past whose faith in God led them to hard and tough decisions. In Christ and with each other the joys and the hard disciplines of faith are united. We recall Christ's death and resurrection and our own incorporation into his dying and rising, which began in us in baptism.

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

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Serving in the Liturgy today:

August 13, 2023

Lector 8:00 am Susan Quigley
LEM 8:00 am
Altar Guild 8:00 am Linda Chiappetta
Ushers 8:00 am Glenn Mortimer, Mary Storey, Bill Bodine
Lector 10:00 am Mike Munson
LEM 10:00 am
Altar Guild 10:00am 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

In Thanksgiving for

100 years of Blessings

Marjorie Redfern - 100th Birthday

(Aug 17, 2023)

In Memory of

Stephen Casale

by Benedetto & Christina Casale

Altar Flowers

*Altar Flowers are given to
the Glory of God*

In Memory of

*Harry Tomkins, Kathy Molnar & Judy
DeYoung by Ruth Molnar*

