



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

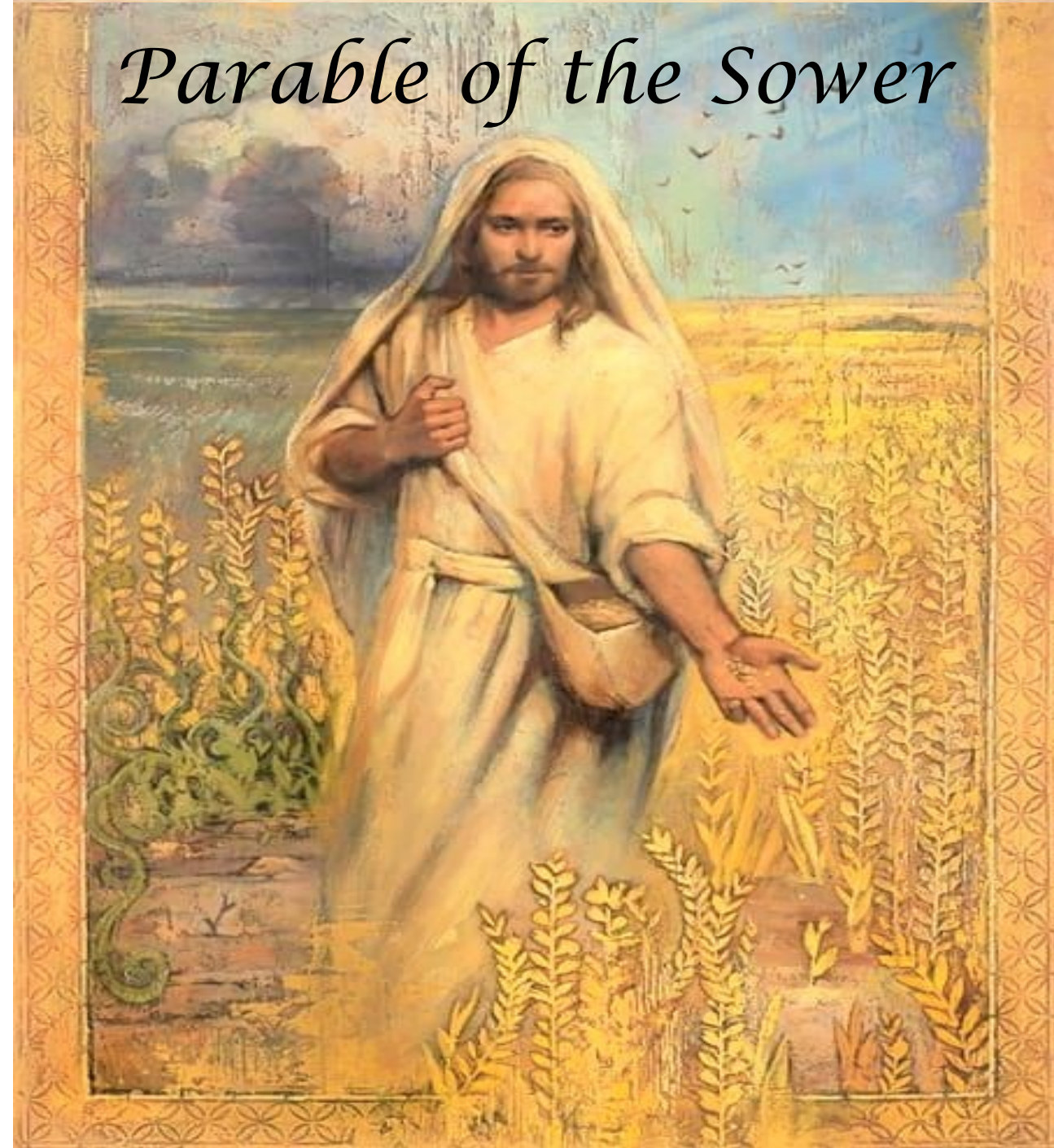
Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 10

Parable of the Sower



**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PROPER 10
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

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

Save the Date on Upcoming Events

Hymnal	The Word of God	BCP
48	Processional Hymn: “O day of radiant gladness” Patriotic Hymn: 717, V4 Opening Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion Collect of the Day First Lesson: Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65 Second Lesson: Romans 8:1-11 Gradual: “Word of God, speak” (Lyrics below) Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9,18-23	Insert Insert Insert Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i> Prayers of the People Form VI Confession and Absolution The Peace Announcements Offertory Anthem “God bless America” Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”	Insert 392 393

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”	
593	“Lord, make us servants of your peace”	
632	“O Christ, the word incarnate”	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
524	Recessional: “I love thy kingdom, Lord” 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.

FUND RAISING DINNER

A Dinner will be held on **Saturday, July 22 at 5:30PM** led by Mike Munson, to benefit Fr. Paul's Discretionary Fund. A free will offering will be collected. Sign up is needed so, Mike knows how many to prepare for. See sheet in the Narthex, or call the church office Monday-Thursday from 9AM-1:30PM at (732) 350-2121.

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)

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 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!

A Healing Service

Presented by

The Atlantic Convocation

Open your heart to receive God's love and experience His healing power on a profound level. This service provides an environment where you can encounter the healing touch of the Divine Physician.

Wednesday, July 26, at 6pm.

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church - Sanctuary
180 Rt 539, Whiting NJ**

Refreshments will be served

Collect of the Day

☩ Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through 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 55:10-13

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and return not thither but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and prosper in the thing for which I sent it.
“For you shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign which shall not be cut off.”

Psalm 65: (1-8), 9-14

Te decet hymnus

- 1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; *
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
- 2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, *
because of their transgressions.
- 3 Our sins are stronger than we are, *
but you will blot them out.

- 4 Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there! *
they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,
by the holiness of your temple.
- 5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation, *
O Hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the seas that are far away.
- 6 You make fast the mountains by your power; *
they are girded about with might.
- 7 You still the roaring of the seas, *
the roaring of their waves,
and the clamor of the peoples.
- 8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; *
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
- 9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;
you make it very plenteous; *
the river of God is full of water.
- 10 You prepare the grain, *
for so you provide for the earth.
- 11 You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; *
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- 12 You crown the year with your goodness, *
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- 13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, *
and the hills be clothed with joy.
- 14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; *
let them shout for joy and sing.



A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free from the law of sin and death.



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– July 13, 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



For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, indeed it cannot; and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh, you are in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Any one who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although your bodies are dead because of sin, your spirits are alive because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit which dwells in you.

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

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat there; and the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they had not much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched; and since they had no root they withered away. Other seeds fell upon thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear.”

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When any one hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in his heart; this is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is he who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the delight in riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is he who hears the word and understands it; he indeed bears fruit, and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

TECH THURSDAY



Tech Thursday meets monthly. Our next meeting will be on **July 20th**. 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

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



Welcome to St. Stephen's

In reading through the Gospel according to Matthew, we now reach a section of parables told by Jesus to reveal the nature of God's Kingdom. This particular parable of the Sower describes the basis for our growth in faith and ministry. We must be rooted in the Word of God. Our weekly gathering in Eucharist and our daily prayer and scripture reading are essential parts of this rootedness. We also meet Christ, the living Word of God, in ministry to the poor, the sick, and the neglected.

The first reading from Isaiah also uses the image of planting a crop. Its promise is that God is to be counted on to bring about in us growth into holiness. Just as rain waters the earth and can be counted on to bring about the growth of plants, so God's presence within our community is bringing about growth in righteousness.

In the second reading today, Paul continues to elaborate on the nature of the new life we have received in baptism. As we live in the Spirit rather than according to the world (the flesh) we are discovering more fully that we have been adopted by God as children. Thus we can count on God's faithfulness to us and on our ultimate glorification and eternal life.

We gather to hear God's Word. That Word is not simply the objective written scriptures, however. Above all, the Word is Christ and our celebration centers on meeting him and receiving him, the Word of God incarnate.

Serving in the Liturgy today:

July 10, 2023

Lector 8:00 am	JoAnn Smithson
LEM 8:00 am	Richard Smithson, JoAnn Smithson
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	Susan Clarke, Bill Bodine, Dottie Kaster
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
Peg Smith,
by Ginny Bray*

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

*In Memory of
Al Shindle
by Lois Talarowski*

*In Memory of
Al Shindle by Al & Valerie Thompson*

*In Memory of
Charlie Kelly & Allura Tess Gaskill,
by Sandy Gaskill*

