



## 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.

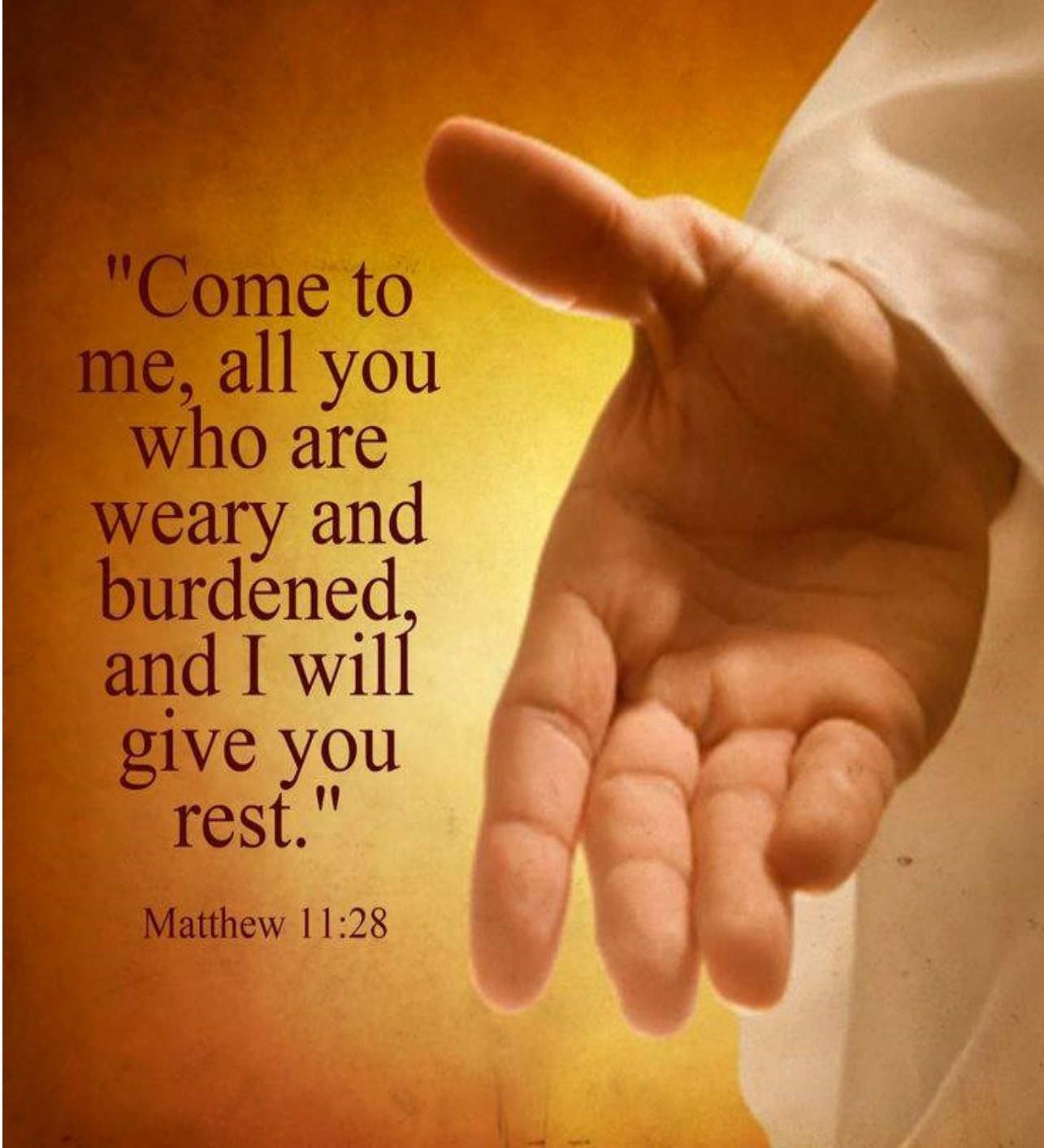
If it is an emergency you may also reach Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden at 732-350-2904 or

Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



## Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 9



"Come to  
me, all you  
who are  
weary and  
burdened,  
and I will  
give you  
rest."

Matthew 11:28

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PROPER 9  
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**JULY 9, 2023  
8 & 10 am**

**Save the Date on Upcoming Events**

<b>Hymnal</b>	<b>The Word of God</b>
657	Processional Hymn: <i>“Love divine, all loves excelling”</i> Patriotic Hymn: 717, V4 Opening Acclamation
S102	Trisagion Collect of the Day First Lesson: <b>Zechariah 9:9-12</b>
	<b>Psalm 45</b> Second Lesson: <b>Romans 7:15-25a</b> Gradual: <i>“Word of God, speak”</i> (Lyrics below) Gospel: <b>Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30</b> Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i> Prayers of the People Form VI Confession and Absolution The Peace Announcements Offertory Anthem <i>“God bless America”</i> Doxology: <i>“All things come of thee O Lord”</i>

**BCP**

355

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392

393

**HOLY COMMUNION**

	Eucharistic Prayer A	361
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S136	Memorial Acclamation	363
	The Lord’s Prayer	364
	Breaking of the Bread	
S152	Fraction Anthem	
	Communion Hymns	
325	<i>“Let us break bread together”</i>	
693	<i>“Just as I am”</i>	
516	<i>“Come down O love divine”</i>	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
544	Recessional: <i>“Jesus shall reign”</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-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**

Thursdays at 10:00 am

**OSL WILL BE MEETING**

On Thursday July 13, after the Healing Service

**THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

Monday, July 10th @10 AM



**VESTRY MEETING**

Monday, July 24 @ 10am.

**THAI DINNER AND MORE**

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-2pm**, will our annual Flea Market here at St. Stephen’s. We are now excepting item. 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](http://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



## Thai Dinner & More



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.

## 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*

⊕ God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; 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 Prophet Zechariah 9:9-12*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on an ass,

on a colt the foal of an ass.

I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your captives free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

**Psalm 45: 11-18**

***Eructavit cor meum***

**11** "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen closely; \*

forget your people and your father's house.

**12** The king will have pleasure in your beauty; \*

he is your master; therefore do him honor.

**13** The people of Tyre are here with a gift; \*

the rich among the people seek your favor."

**14** All glorious is the princess as she enters; \*

her gown is cloth-of-gold.

**15** In embroidered apparel she is brought to the king; \*

after her the bridesmaids follow in procession.

**16** With joy and gladness they are brought, \*

and enter into the palace of the king.

**17** "In place of fathers, O king, you shall have sons; \*

you shall make them princes over all the earth.

**18** I will make your name to be remembered

from one generation to another; \*

therefore nations will praise you for ever and ever."



**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



## 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 section.

## 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](mailto:njstateorganizer@gmail.com)

## *A reading from Paul’s letter to the Romans 7:15-25a*

**I** do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. So then it is no longer I that do it, but sin which dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin which dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin which dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

## *A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

“**B**ut to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market places and calling to their playmates,

‘We piped to you, and you did not dance;  
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Behold, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus declared, “I thank thee, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to babes; yea, Father, for such was thy gracious will. All things have been delivered to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and any one to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”



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 9, 2023

Lector 8:00 am	Susan Quigley
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	Valerie Thompson
LEM 10:00 am	Bob Virtue, Bill Bodine, Kay Karlick
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  
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*

