

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. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, 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 2022
Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden
Peter Quigley, Property Warden
Debbie Fisher, Marge Pomykala, Joanne Soriano
Dottie Kaster, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue
Kay Karlick, Tom Larson, Ken Seda
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

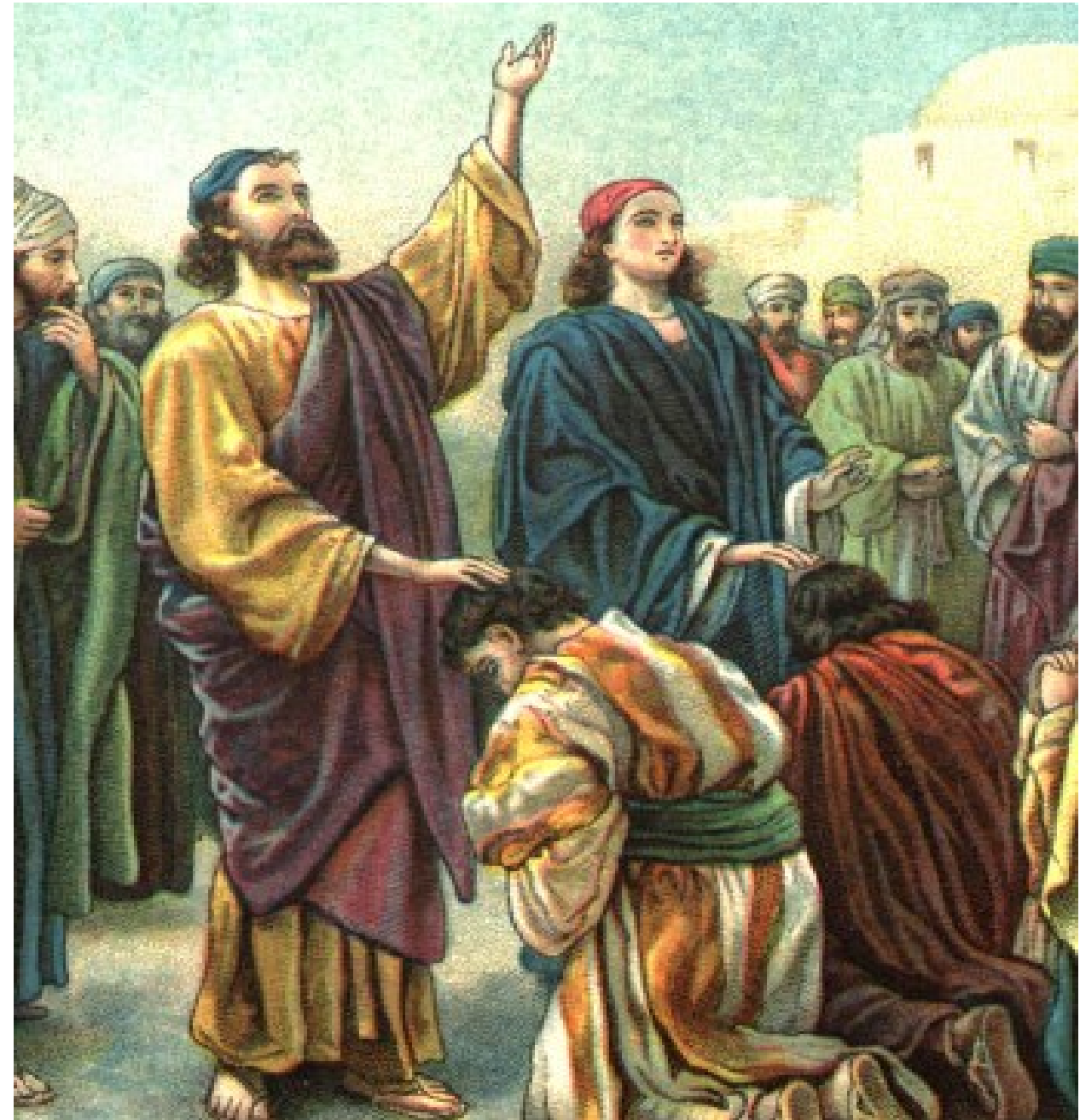
Welcome to St. Stephen's Church!

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.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



<i>Hymnal</i>	<i>The Word of God</i>	<i>BCP</i>
512	Processional Hymn: “Come gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove”	
	Open Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion	
	Collect of the Day	<i>Insert</i>
	First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20	<i>Insert</i>
	Psalm 1	<i>Insert</i>
	Second Lesson: Philemon 1-21	<i>Insert</i>
	Gradual: “Word of God, Speak” (<i>Lyrics Below</i>)	<i>Insert</i>
	Gospel: Luke 14:25-33	<i>Insert</i>
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i>	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People Form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	393
	The Peace	360
	Offertory Anthem	
	Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”	

HOLY COMMUNION

	The Great Thanksgiving	
	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”	
145	“Have thine own way Lord”	
144	“I can hear my savior calling”	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
	Announcements	
542	Recessional: “Christ is the worlds true light”	
	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*

Save the Date on Upcoming Events

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, Mondays at 11am, for info contact
This weeks title: Roberta Mackey at (917) 696-6863

CHOIR PRACTICE

Looking for volunteers to sing or play instruments during
 the summer months. Please see *Esther Graham*



HEALING SERVICES

Thursdays at 10:00 am

ORDER OF ST. LUKE

2nd Thursday of each month, September 8th - after Healing Service

VESTRY MEETING

Monday, September 26th @ 10am

THYROID SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

September 12TH @10AM

HOMECOMING BBQ

Sunday, September 11, ONE SERVICE ONLY!

A **Pot Luck BBQ** after 10:15am service.

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be provided.! A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for
 those who would like to attend!

And, a sign up sheet is in the Narthex for all who wish to contribute a side dish.

For all who are not able to make it to the church to sign up, please call Greg in the
 office to have your name and what you would like to bring for foods added to the
 list. Not necessary to bring a dish to attend.

ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. Compline is now on **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** at 7PM on **YouTube and Zoom**. All are welcome!

COME AND SEE!!!



UTO ~ The United Thank Offering or UTO, is a worldwide program that has existed for over 100 years. The blue boxes remind us of each day, of what God has given us, and we are thankful, as we say a prayer and collect some coins to put in the box. The blue boxes and envelopes will be in the Narthex for your contribution from now, until **September 18**.

The **UTO** Ingathering and Diocesan ECW **Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 24 at 10AM at St. David's, Cranbury**. The Meeting will also be on zoom and you tube. Our Bishop will join us at that time as well. See *Stefanie Bodine*, or call her at (732) 350-2904 with your questions.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD ~ Each year we fill the shoeboxes to share with children in need. This is the perfect time to pick up back to school supplies in our local stores to fill these shoeboxes. More details will follow. Any ?, contact *Stefanie Bodine* at (732) 350-2904

The Bishop is coming! Rescheduled date!

We welcome the Right Reverend William H. (Chip) Stokes,
to St. Stephen's!

Sunday October 9th, 2022 at 10:15am
ONE SERVICE ONLY

For the purpose of confirmation and reception
&

A reception will follow the 10:15am service with refreshments and snacks.
More information to come.

Collect of the Day

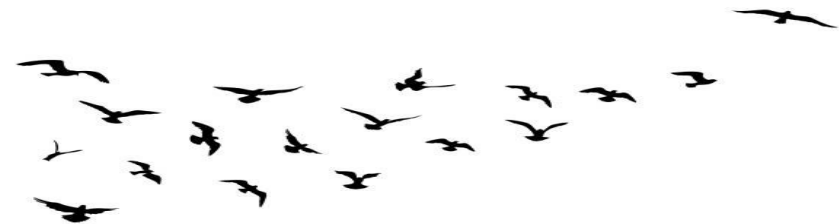
Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ..*Amen*.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

“See, I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you this day, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his ordinances, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land which you are entering to take possession of it.

But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you this day, that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land which you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice, and cleaving to him; for that means life to you and length of days, that you may dwell in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”



Psalm 1

Beatus vir qui non abiit

- 1 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!
- 2 Their delight is in the law of the LORD, *
and they meditate on his law day and night.
- 3 They are like trees planted by streams of water,
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *
everything they do shall prosper.
- 4 It is not so with the wicked; *
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment
comes, *
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- 6 For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, *
but the way of the wicked is doomed.



Second Reading

Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may promote the knowledge of all the good that is ours in Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an ambassador and



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 Summer 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

A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2022 - 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

help wanted



ENGLISH TEA #2



Will be held on Thursday, September 15 at 2PM

See Stefanie (732) 350-2904 if you are willing to help make sandwiches



Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month--September 8th, 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

Stewardship Meeting

Greetings all!

Our stewardship slate of speakers is now complete, and thanks to all who are willing to participate this year!

After going online with project resource the last couple of weeks we came up with an idea to share. Wanted to have a fireside fall chat about stewardship on Sunday October 30th during the coffee hours and we can have a pow wow and talk stewardship! Why not bring your thoughts and ideas about stewardship to coffee hour! It's a great and informative way to exchange ideas about stewardship and to gather other people's ideas as well what they're thinking of.

If you have any other ideas and suggestions please let me know. I'm always looking for ways to improve the program. The season opens on Sunday September 18th where I'll open the season with a speech to the congregation. We have a very talented slate this year and our consecration Sunday speaker is Canon Phyllis Jones from the diocese of NJ. Consecration Sunday is Sunday November 20th.

Our program is nearly set and we always look for more to do as it's a year round effort!

Sunday October 30th

During both coffee hours

Bring your thoughts and ideas..

And enjoy some fall refreshments

Like apple cider, cider and pumpkin doughnuts and assorted pastries.

We would be delighted to hear your Stewardship suggestions to improve the program.



For more information contact *Bill Bodine* at 848-210-4206

now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus — I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will.

Perhaps this is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother, especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand, I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:25-33

Now great multitudes accompanied him; and he turned and said to them, “If any one comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?

Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build, and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and take counsel whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand?

And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends an embassy and asks terms of peace. So therefore, whoever of you does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.



The gospel reading today is another of the passages from Jesus' teaching as he approached Jerusalem and his death. For weeks now, we have been reminded of the call to discipleship and its cost. Today's reading describes his call to bear the cross, setting aside all earthly concerns which would turn us away from faithfulness to Christ.

The first reading is from Moses' concluding instructions to the people of Israel before his death. He reminds them again of the commandments and calls on them to choose between obedience and life on the one hand, and disobedience and death on the other.

In Paul's brief letter to his friend, Philemon, he describes the transformed quality of Christian people's relationships with others. Philemon's runaway slave, Onesimus, has become a Christian and Paul instructs Philemon to receive him back as a brother in Christ. The work of Christ's Spirit in our lives places us in a new stance in which we are all brothers and sisters, and children of the living God.

Each gathering to celebrate the Holy Eucharist challenges us to renewed commitment to the new life that God gives us. We find ourselves part of a family given us in baptism. In company with our brothers and sisters, we respond by choosing life rather than death, and in union with our Savior, we take up our cross and join in pilgrimage toward the resurrection.

Serving in the Liturgy today:

Lector 8:00 am	<i>Linda Chiapetta</i>
LEM 8:00 am	<i>Bill Bodine</i>
Altar Guild 8:00 am	<i>Debbie Fisher, Dave Fisher</i>
Ushers 8:00 am	<i>Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine</i>
Lector 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson</i>
LEM 10:15 am	<i>Bill Bodine, Gerrie Vergona</i>
Altar Guild 10:15 am	<i>Valerie Thompson, Karen Mauro</i>
Ushers 10:15 am	<i>Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson</i>



Sanctuary Candle

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

***In Memory of
Ernest J. Clarke III,
by Daughter Susan Clarke***

Altar Flowers

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

***In Honor of
Edward Ragauckas's 79th Birthday,
by Karen Tessa***

