

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

Sandra Gaskill, Treasurer

Gerianne Murphy Assistant Treasurer

Pam Unger, Organist & Choir Director

Colleen Clover, Parish Administrator

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Janet Spieth, Rector's Warden

Wardens and Vestry 2017

Janet Spieth, Rector's Warden

Jim Jados, Property Warden

Laura Gural, Richard Smithson

Shelagh Bluni, Lillian Fluk, Pat Russo,

Carol Cavanaugh, William Bodine, Randy Walton

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 Janet Spieth, Rector's Warden at 732/716-1656 or

Father Paul at his home 609/268-2864.

And out of
pity for him,
the master of
that servant
released
him and



him the debt.

MATTHEW 18:27, ESV

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 19
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II

September 17, 2017
8am&10am

Hymnal	The Word of God	BCP
1	Processional Hymn: <i>“Father we praise thee, now the night is over”</i>	
	Patriotic Hymn 717 Verse 4	
	Opening Acclamation	355
S102	Trisagion	
	Collect of the Day	Insert
	First Lesson: Book of Genesis 50:15-21	Insert
	Psalm 103	Insert
	Second Lesson: Letter to the Romans 14:1-12	Insert
	Gradual: “Word of God, speak”	
	Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35	Insert
	Sermon — The Rev. Paul Van Sant	
	The Nicene Creed	358
	Prayers of the People form VI	392
	Confession and Absolution	393
	The Peace	
	Announcements	
	Offertory Anthem	
	Doxology: “All things come of thee O Lord”	
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:	
400	“All creatures of our God and King”	
411	“O bless the Lord my soul”	
397	Post Communion Hymn: “Now thank we all our God”	
	Post Communion Prayer	365
	Blessing	
410	Recessional: “Praise, my soul, the King of heaven”	
	Dismissal	

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
 Serving in the Liturgy today:

September 17, 2017

Lector 8:00 AM	Greta Pearl
LEM 8:00 AM	Krupa Abbott
Altar Guild 8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Betty Corino
Ushers 8:00 AM	Mary Storey, Glenn Mortimer, Bill Bodine
Lector 10:00 AM	Sandra Gaskill
LEMs 10:00 AM	Bill Bodine, Susan Clarke
Altar Guild 10:00 AM	Carol Cavanaugh, Peg Smith
Ushers 10:00 AM	Al Thompson, John Brown

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF September 17–September 23, 2017

Today	AA Meeting	8:00 pm
Monday	Office Hours	9am-2 pm
Tuesday	Closed AA Meeting	2:00 pm
Wednesday	Closed AA Meeting	3:00 pm
Thursday	Healing Service	10:00 am
	Macy’s Fashion Show	1 pm -3 pm
Friday	Pineland Symphonic Band	9:30 am
Saturday	AA Meeting	3:00 pm
	AA Meeting	8:00 pm
	Vestry & Wardens Meeting with the Bishop	1:00 pm

Everyone is welcome to come to the coffee hour after worship.
 All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion at our Lord’s Table, regardless of your church affiliation. We encourage you to share with us in this sacrament.





TIME TO USHER IN THE AUTUMN SEASON
 THE MEN'S GROUP AND ECW ARE HOSTING
 OKTOBERFEST 2017 ~ 15.00 PER TICKET
 SATURDAY- OCTOBER 7, FROM 1-3 PM



ECW Fall Fashion Show
will be held Thursday
September 21st NOON-3PM
Tickets are \$8.00 each.
Our esteemed Models will be
sporting Macy's latest
Fashions!
There will be tickets at the
door if you miss your
chance!
Bring a friend!



**Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
 Proper 19**

**September 17, 2017
 8 AM & 10AM**

Collect of the Day

O God, because without you we are not able to please you mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*

First Reading

Book of Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil which we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, 'Say to Joseph, Forgive, I pray you, the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, we pray you, forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him, and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Fear not, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he reassured them and comforted them.

Psalm 103

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
- 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *
and forget not all his benefits.
- 3 He forgives all your sins *
and heals all your infirmities;
- 4 He redeems your life from the grave *
and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;
- 5 He satisfies you with good things, *
and your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- 6 The LORD executes righteousness *
and judgment for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made his ways known to Moses *
and his works to the children of Israel.
- 8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.
- 9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.
- 12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.
- 13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

Second Reading

Letter to the Romans 14:1-12

As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables.



Attention Vestry Members and Wardens: Bishop will be meeting with you Saturday, September 23rd @ 1:00
ECW Meeting: Mark your calendar for December 7 at 1:00 pm
ORDER OF ST. LUKE: 2nd Thursday of each month after Healing Service
PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND: Fridays 9:30 am

CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE sells well to groups meeting at our church. Now accepting **LADIES Fall/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. We are very appreciative of your kind donations and purchases from this fundraising project.



LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED There is an **URGENT** call out for Lay Eucharistic Ministers for our 10:00 a.m. service. Two LEMs are needed at this service.

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

JoAnn Smithson is the Congregational Coordinator for Care Givers Volunteers here at St. Stephen's. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. JoAnn's phone number is 609/268-0821.



Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

We continue to read from the section of Matthew's Gospel, which deals with God's forgiveness and our role in extending God's forgiveness to all people. Peter asks Jesus how many times he is to forgive someone who wrongs him. In a parable, Jesus explains that God's forgiveness of us lays on us the obligations to forgive our brothers and sisters unconditionally.

In Genesis, we have the example of Joseph, who finds it within his person to forgive his brothers, despite the atrocities they perpetrated on him as a boy. He also provides us with an example of the way in which unexpected events can work for good in God's purpose.

In our final reading from Romans, Paul calls on Christians to refrain from judging one another. The differences between the ways various ones of us follow Christ are to be accepted. Our responsibility is to love God and each other.

We are a community marked by faith and obedience to God's Word. Our life reflects our relationship with God and our relationships with each other. We are to be a community marked by acceptance of all and by forgiveness. Not a gathering of perfected saints – we are, rather, a gathering of sinners who have known God's love and forgiveness and who in turn extend that love and forgiveness to all people.

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

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Announcements

September 17, 2017

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.

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to the Glory of God
In honor of everyone from St. Stephens who helped Virginia and Susan Clarke
In a time of great need*



*The Altar flowers are given to the
Glory of God
By a parishioner*

ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines	1st Sunday of each month	at 9:30 am
AristaCare	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
Crestwood Manor	4th Monday of each month	at 2:00 pm

