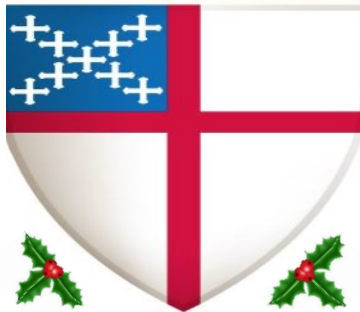




The Chapel Chimes



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From the Rector's Desk...

INCARNATION



What is it that most of us spend our time worrying about? If we are honest, especially in this time of Covid, we would have to say our bodies. Are we safe? Did we vax? Do I have a fever? Every detail of our physical existence gets monitored. But it's not just with Covid. We always worry about our bodies because we equate our bodies with our self. From the time we are in the womb there is self (our body) and there is other (other bodies). We know ourselves as our body. We protect ourselves by protecting our body. We take medicine, put on seat-belts, wear sports equipment, eat healthy, use sunglasses, visit our doctors, all to protect ourselves (our bodies).

Why are our bodies so important? Because the only way we can know others is to use our body to know theirs. We hear, see, touch, smell and taste. One body to another. Listening to what someone is saying or maybe singing. Seeing another's face. Touching by hugging or holding hands, or by offering a pat on the back. Smelling someone's aftershave, cologne or hairspray. Tasting in a gentle kiss

Because we are born into a physical world we depend on physical interactions to communicate or



attempt to know another person.

This presents a problem for us when we say we want to know God. God is pure spirit; no image we can gaze upon, at least gaze and stay alive. God has no hand to hold or mouth to speak. God is eternal, not mortal. So how do we know God? How do we approach him? It begins with Jesus. The gift of Christmas is not the baby, it is the Incarnation. It is God deigning to become a human being. God becoming flesh. The Gospel of John says: "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father."

(Continued on page 2)



The Chapel Chimes

Is a publication of :

St. Stephens Episcopal Church

Our Church Office is Located at:

180 Route 539

Whiting, NJ 08759-1238

Phone: (732) 350-2121 Fax: (732) 350-6000

Jesus enables us to get to know God up close and personal. His disciples actually heard him speak. They walked with him in fields and on roads. They held his hand, hugged him and one even betrayed him with a kiss. Jesus touched others and healed them. He fed multitudes of followers. His words were clear and powerful enough to even raise the dead. Those who knew Jesus knew God. Jesus showed us the mind and heart of God through his human life (through his body) so we could relate to God in ways that made sense to us.

But wait, you say, Jesus has never touched or spoken to me. I'm nowhere near old enough (though sometimes I may feel I am). Yet Jesus does touch us. First, and most profoundly, in the Holy Eucharist. Jesus reaches across the centuries and enters our bodies to be intimately close to us. Second, Jesus speaks for us to hear through the scriptures. And finally, Jesus is present with us every moment of every day through his Holy Spirit which we receive at our baptism. But it doesn't end there.

St. Paul tells us that when we are baptized, we ourselves become a part of the body of Christ. Through baptism we become the eyes, ears, mouth, hands and feet of Jesus. Our very selves become an extension of the presence of God through his son Jesus Christ to every other person (and even animal) in the world. When we smile at a stranger they feel the love of God. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the prisoner, or heal the sick others are touched by that love. St. Augustine of Hippo once said that "you are the bread on the altar." When we act in the world, we are acting in the name of Jesus. We become the person (body) that others (other bodies) relate to in order to enter into a personal relationship with God. When we share the good news, give a reassuring hug, offer a meal, listen to a concern, offer approval, look into someone's eyes with compassion. They are seeing the body of Christ in action!

Through the incarnation God perfected human nature, returning it to the state that he originally created it to be, and in doing so enables each of us the aspire to do God's will in our lives as Jesus did in his. So we close this reflection on the Incarnation with Paul's words from his first letter to the Corinthian Church, chapter 12, verse 27: "Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." So let us go and be Jesus to all those God puts in our path!

Happy Feast of the Incarnation and Merry Christmas,



The Rev. Paul Van Sant Sr. M. Div., Th. M.



Editor.....*Greg Mathews*
Contributors.....*Fr. Paul Van Sant*

Esther Graham

Stefanie Bodine

Gerrie Vergona

Susan Clarke

Patricia Russo

Valerie Thompson



Articles are welcome from all parish members.

Please submit signed and dated items in writing to

The Church Office or email us at,

ssechurch@gmail.com

**The deadline for items,
(First Monday of the Month)**

Any Questions, please feel free to contacts us

(732) 350-2121 ext 10



Soon and very Soon, we are going to see the King! Hallelujah! What a time of expectation and excitement. We are waiting with joy to celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus, the Savior of the World, Our Savior.

This isn't about buying and decorating and giving extravagant gifts. It isn't about cleaning our homes and making them spotless. It isn't even about preparing our cookies, pies, and the awesome meals. It is about our hearts knowing, loving, and looking forward to a new beginning. This season should be about loving those who need love. It's about caring for those who need loving kindness. It should be about being available to be used in whatever way the Lord wants to use us.

When we lived in northern New Jersey and our children were young, we always invited people that we knew would be alone for the holidays to spend these special days with us. We would send them home with lots of leftovers. What precious times we would have with these beautiful people. What can you do this season to show Jesus love to the world around you?

Make yourself even more available to worship the Lord with your time, talents, and love. You will find that your life has been enriched in ways that you have never imagined.

Don't forget the Crestwood Chorus holiday concert on December 5 at 2:00. We will not be selling tickets this year. We will be collecting a love offering. We look forward to sharing our gift of music with you.

Esther Graham
Minister of Music



STEWARDSHIP



Thank you to everyone that filled in a pledge card to share their time, talent, and treasure. God is so good, bringing us one of the best speakers from the Diocese—our Communications Director Steve Welsh for Consecration Sunday. If you missed filling in a pledge card or your life changes and you need to amend your card—see the Treasurer.

Thanks to everyone—we have a coffee hour to share with you on Sunday, December 12. Come join us to celebrate what a wonderful parish we are. The Stewardship Committee: Stefanie Bodine, Debbie Fisher, Karen-Tessa Mayer, Gerianne Murphy, Ken Seda, Gerrie Vergona, and the Chair Bill Bodine.



ECW NEWS

Thanks to everyone that helped with the Operation Christmas Child project. We filled 21 shoeboxes and 2 shopping bags with additional items that either were too large or overflowed the shoeboxes. We have made so many children happy. Thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Special thank you to Pat Russo who brought this project to our attention 20 years ago. We have filled close to 1000 boxes in this time period. She is no longer able to chair the project although she is still enthusiastic about it and shared items with us.

The PINELANDS SYMPHONIC BAND Concert brought joyful music to our halls with old favorites, Glenn Miller items from the '40's, march music, Christmas and holiday favorites, and the "sing-a-long". With the help of our cookie bakers—Joann, Estelle, Stefanie, and more—we had a delicious assortment of favorites including chocolate chip cookies and brownies. Everyone loved the fellowship after the concert. This was one of the easiest fundraisers ever to do! The tickets sold themselves, and people brought their friends. The band members each brought a guest and we had over 100 people present. Our total donations were \$840 for the church. Thank you to all that participated, and thanks to Marge Pomykala, Johanna Soriano, and Bill Bodine who helped to sell tickets at the door on the day.



ECW President



ORDER OF ST. LUKE



The order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month after the Healing Service. The next meeting will be on January 13. We will meet on February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, and December 8 in 2022.

Recently, we shared in a Conveners Meeting and "Equipping the Saints" Conference via ZOOM. We will try to put a healing mission together for the spring via zoom. People from all over the world can participate.

PRAYER OF THE ORDER OF ST. LUKE THE PHYSICIAN

Almighty God, who inspired Luke the Physician to set forth in the Gospel the love and healing power of Your son: Graciously continue in Your Church the love and power to heal, to the praise and glory of Your Name, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. *Amen*

THOUGHTFULNESS

Celebrate and thank one person today, who has contributed to your journey of healing! Nurture friendship and fellowship with one person (or group) who shares your passion for healing. Healing connections, Ask the Lord to strengthen and multiply your connections with people who pray for healing/need healing. In Community - together - widening the circle of Jesus' healing love! Envision your healing connections. Listen. Reflect. Jot down any ideas/actions the Lord brings to your attention. Help us to heal the hurts that have kept us on the sidelines, due to fear, apathy, inertia, or busyness, and those that have led to over-doing, due to pride, perfectionism, guilt, or lack of trust.

Free us from all that keeps us from healthy engagement and joyful participation with You and each other in the ministry to which you have called us. Awaken the deep desire you have planted in each of us to embrace our calling. Release us to step out of ill-fitting roles into new roles that draw out the very best in us. Plant us where You can best use our unique, God-given gifts, longings, experience, and skills to nourish the wider community with the healing love of Jesus. *Amen*.

“The time is coming when I will plant people, just as a farmer plants seed.” (From Jeremiah 31:27)

DO YOU NEED PRAYER'S FOR HEALING

Your prayers have been included in our Compline prayer list. Contact Fr. Paul. Susan Clarke, or Stefanie at (732) 350-2904 or houseofpink7@gmail.com if you have any questions or need prayers.

ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN

St. Stephen's is in need of additional members for our Prayer Chain. 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.

FORWARD DAY BY DAY BOOKLETS

December 2021 and January 2022 is now available in regular & large print editions, See Stefanie.

ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Holy Eucharist are held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM – join us in person or on zoom or you tube. Each evening at 7PM, join us for Compline on Zoom or You Tube. All are welcome!

COME AND SEE!!!





CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS

The Altar Guild is again planning to order Christmas flowers and wreaths to decorate the Sanctuary as we prepare for the Celebration of Our Savior’s Birth. This is a time when we especially may want to remember our loved ones and friends who have died or to express thanksgiving for our blessings.

Christmas Flower Offering envelopes are available in the Narthex for those who would like to participate. Please fill out the appropriate information, and return the envelope to the church at your earliest convenience.

DEADLINE FOR CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

If you have any questions, please call Altar Guild Flower Chair, *Valerie Thompson*, at 732-657-4510. Thank you and God Bless.



Lay Eucharistic Ministers are needed to serve the chalice at both services--8AM and 10:15AM. Training will be provided. See Fr. Paul if you can help.

A very blessed and Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy new year from the:

Rector - Fr. Paul

Wardens - Stefanie Bodine, Richard Smithson and Vestry - Debbie Fisher, Kay Karlick, Dottie Kaster,

Tom Larson, Maryann Payne, Marge Pomykala

Peter Quigley, Pat Russo, Ken Seda

Treasurers - Gerrie Vergona, Suzan Webb, Gerianne Murphy

Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Esther Graham - Organist and Choir Director



A Prayer for Advent

*God of light and hope,
look upon us in love,
and fill us with the Spirit of Jesus
that we may love you and serve you in your kingdom.
Protect us during this week
and keep us watchful in prayer
as we await the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
who is the light of the world,
and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen*



ARTS AND CRAFTS

The next arts and craft workshops will be on the 16th, from 10:00 – Noon, highlighting card making. And in the afternoon, from 1:00 – 3pm, highlighting needlework. You're welcome to share in one, or both workshops and to bring your own projects.

Hope to see you then,

Gerrie Vergona, Facilitator



FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

Ah, "Stewardship Season". We are very blessed here at St. Stephens's to have such wonderful individuals in our "family". As Steve Welch, Diocesan Canon of Communications, mentioned on Consecration Sunday, we have a special connection that results in visitors feeling our spirit. As Stewardship season progresses, we're hopeful that our gifts will multiply and enable us to be a magnet to more of the community around us. Spread the Spirit!

Blessings,
Gerrie Vergona
Treasurer



ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 30, 2022. There will be one service at 9AM followed by the Annual Meeting.

The following people have placed their names in service to God to be voted on that day:
Property Warden (Junior Warden) - 2 year turn 2024 - Peter Quigley

Vestry: 3 year term –2025 - (3 people)

Dottie Kaster
Maryann Payne
Robert Virtue

Convocation: 1 year term - (3 delegates, 3 alternates)

Shelagh Bluni
Bill Bodine
Linda Chiappetta
Dennis Lacey
Peter Quigley
Susan Quigley

Convention: 1 year term - (3 delegates, 3 alternates)

Betsy Clindinst
Peter Quigley
Susan Quigley
(3 more people needed)

Annual Meeting Convention delegate -

Betsy Clinedinst
(still need 3)

Finance Committee - Stefanie Bodine

Glenn Mortimer
(need 1 more)

Nominations will be made from the floor

Biographies, and annual reports are due to ssechurch@gmail.com , with subject, ATTENTION:
GREG _ ANNUAL REPORT by January 5, 2022

MESSAGE BOARD



CHRISTMAS CARD

With the price of cards going up and the price of postage increasing-sign your greetings to your friends at church on our giant Christmas Card. Thanks, Stefanie

Some of the \$ collected from **CROPWALK** has been earmarked for **OUR DAILY BREAD** and received by Jim Jados, Director. The amount is \$156.49. More may be coming.

ST. STEPHEN'S TREE LIGHTING

Tis the Season! At 4:30 pm on Thursday, December 9th, come join us for a special night of Singing and celebration with the Lighting of our Tree this season. Call the Church office for more details at 732-350-2121

THYROID SUPPORT GROUP

Come join us on Monday, December 13 at 10AM at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Whiting. This group meets monthly to learn about thyroid issues, share experiences about thyroids, and support each other. Anyone with a thyroid issue, looking for help and information, willing to share and learn about thyroids is welcome. Speakers will be welcomed when they are available. All are welcome. Contact the Facilitator, Stefanie Bodine at (732) 350-2904 with your questions.

There will be no **WHITING GARDEN CLUB** Meeting in January. On February 2, at 10AM, we will be making flower arrangements for Hospice. Bring a pair of scissors, a knife, or clippers. Cans filled with foam and decorated with ribbon will be supplied, fresh flowers will also be supplied. A speaker from Van Dyke Hospice Colleen Dalvachio will be speaking about the programs available from Hospice, and then she will take our arrangements to be delivered to the people in the program. Please tell Stefanie if you are coming so she will have enough materials available for you.

Call her at (732) 350-2904.

The **ATLANTIC CONVOCATION** elected their lay delegate Alice Barnes-Vasser, and their clergy delegate, the Rev. Allison Burns-LaGreca to serve on the Committee to elect our next Bishop.

HEALING SERVICE

Join us every Thursday at 10AM for an uplifting experience--prayers, communion, and healing



help wanted

Host one after the 8AM or 10:15AM Service
Everyone enjoys chatting and visiting and a delicious item with their coffee or tea. See Stefanie Bodine with your questions



BOYSCOUT THANKSGIVING TURKEY DINNER

Special Thanks to;

Scout Leader Kevin Rembach and his Troop 350 and all who helped with preparing, serving up and delivering a delicious Turkey Dinner for the Community here at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We appreciate all that was done by everyone and look forward to another year of giving thanks and blessings in our community.



Happy Birthday!

<u><i>December</i></u>		<u><i>January</i></u>	
<i>12/06</i>	<i>Claire Wolpert</i>	<i>June Bruen</i>	<i>1/05</i>
<i>12/06</i>	<i>Ricki Minix</i>	<i>Rose Emo</i>	<i>1/06</i>
<i>12/11</i>	<i>Riley Woods</i>	<i>Dottie Intrieri</i>	<i>1/08</i>
<i>12/15</i>	<i>Warren Bruen</i>	<i>Emily Stahl</i>	<i>1/08</i>
<i>12/19</i>	<i>Andrew Van Sant</i>	<i>Maryann Payne</i>	<i>1/10</i>
<i>12/21</i>	<i>Carolsue Cummings</i>	<i>Peter Quigley</i>	<i>1/11</i>
<i>12/23</i>	<i>Delores Ropes</i>	<i>Greta Pearl</i>	<i>1/13</i>
<i>12/25</i>	<i>Johann Soriano</i>	<i>Abelardo Gonzolas</i>	<i>1/19</i>
<i>12/30</i>	<i>Ryan Woods</i>	<i>Terry Rutkowski</i>	<i>1/20</i>
		<i>Shelagh Bluni</i>	<i>1/24</i>
		<i>Irv Neuman</i>	<i>1/25</i>
		<i>Thomas Larson</i>	<i>1/29</i>
		<i>Ruthann Brooks</i>	<i>1/31</i>

If you would like your Birthday added to our Happy Birthday page for recognition in our Chapel Chimes Publication, please contact Greg Mathews in the Church office between the hours of 9-2pm, Monday through Friday. Or you can Email us at ssechurch@gmail.com, or call us at (732) 350-2121 ext 10. Have a Happy Birthday and Many More, from all of us at St. Stephens Episcopal Church!

Laughter is Good for the Soul



Painting the Church

The church was badly in need of a coat of paint. So the pastor decided he'd do the job himself. But all he had was one bucket of paint. So he got a bunch of buckets and some water, and he thinned the paint enough to cover the entire church. Then he spent all day painting. That night it rained—very hard—and washed all the paint off. The pastor was quite discouraged and asked God, "Why...why God, did you let it rain and wash off all my hard work?"

To which God thundered his reply, "Repaint! Repaint! And thin no more!"



"Barb, you said carrots were supposed to be good for my eyes. I can't see a darn thing!"



BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

BASIC WORDS OF THE BIBLE

G	E	N	T	I	L	E	B	I	B	L	E	D
O	B	A	A	B	R	T	J	E	M	D	I	I
D	P	I	I	E	S	I	M	N	I	P	B	N
T	E	M	P	T	A	T	I	O	N	J	A	H
H	R	P	S	H	L	H	R	P	I	E	P	O
E	S	R	A	L	V	E	A	N	S	R	T	L
F	E	A	C	E	A	H	C	A	T	U	I	Y
A	C	Y	R	H	T	O	L	Z	R	S	Z	S
T	U	E	I	E	I	L	E	A	Y	A	E	P
H	T	I	F	M	O	Y	J	R	H	L	N	I
E	E	S	I	N	N	A	J	E	W	E	H	R
R	W	E	C	L	F	A	I	T	H	M	L	I
B	S	J	E	S	U	S	C	H	R	I	S	T

JESUS CHRIST	PRAY	MIRACLE
SALVATION	TITHE	NAZARETH
JEW	MINISTRY	BETHLEHEM
GENTILE	BIBLE	JERUSALEM
HOLY SPIRIT	HOLY	BAPTIZE
GOD THE FATHER	SACRIFICE	TEMPTATION
PERSECUTE	FAITH	SIN

CREATED BY MELINDA SKAGGS

2021

DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Choir Practice 10am Garden Club 10am AA Meeting 3pm	2 Healing Service, 10am AA Meeting 3pm	3 AA Friday Nighters 7-8pm	4 AA Meeting 8pm
5 Holy Eucharist 8&10:15AM Crestwood Chorus -2pm	6 Woman's Bible Study Group 11am AA group 3pm Boy Scouts, 6:30-8:30	7 Closed AA Meeting 2pm Crestwood Chorus 7-8:30pm Cub Scouts, 7:30 - 8:30pm	8 Choir Practice 10am AA Meeting 3pm	9 Healing Service 10am OSL Meets after Healing service AA Meeting 3pm Tree Lighting 4pm	10 AA Friday Nighters 7-8pm	11 AA Meeting 8pm
12 Holy Eucharist 8&10:15AM	13 Thyroid support group 10am AA group 3pm Woman's Bible Study Group 11am Boy Scouts, 6:30-8:30	14 Closed AA Meeting 2pm Crestwood Chorus 7-8:30pm Cub Scouts, 7:30 - 8:30pm	15 Choir Practice 10am AA Meeting 3pm	16 Healing Service, 10am Arts&Crafts 10-12,1-3pm AA Meeting 3pm	17 AA Friday Nighters 7-8pm	18 AA Meeting 8pm
19 Holy Eucharist 8&10:15AM	20 Woman's Bible Study Group 11am AA group 3pm Boy Scouts, 6:30-8:30	21 Closed AA Meeting 2pm Crestwood Chorus 7-8:30pm Cub Scouts, 7:30 - 8:30pm	22 Choir Practice 10am AA Meeting 3pm	23 Healing Service, 10am AA Meeting 3pm	24 AA Friday Nighters 7-8pm Christmas Eve Service 4pm, 7pm & 9pm	25 CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE 10am
26 Holy Eucharist 8&10:15AM	27 10am Vestry Meeting Woman's Bible Study Group 11am AA group 3pm Boy Scouts, 6:30-8:30	28 Closed AA Meeting 2pm Crestwood Chorus 7-8:30pm Cub Scouts, 7:30 - 8:30pm	29 Choir Practice 10am AA Meeting 3pm	30 (No Healing Service) AA Meeting 3pm	31 AA Friday Nighters 7-8pm	

Parish Staff

Bishop & Chief Pastor

The Rt. Rev. William H. Stokes

Rector

The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., M. Div., Th. M.

Music Minister

Esther Graham

Treasurer

Gerrie Vergona

Assistant Treasurer

Suzan Webb

Rector's Warden

Stefanie Bodine ('23)

Property Warden

Richard Smithson ('22)

Clerk of the Vestry

JoAnn Smithson

Vestry Members:

Class of 2022

Pat Russo

Dottie Kaster

MaryAnn Payne

Class of 2023

Kay Karlick

Tom Larson

Ken Seda

Class of 2024

Debbie Fisher

Marge Pomykala

Peter Quigley

Office Staff:

Parrish Administrator

Greg Mathews

Sexton

Tom O'Brien



Help Hotline Contact Information

As many of us face challenges with today's unstable economy, here are some helpful telephone numbers for assistance. Pass them along if you know someone who needs a little extra help getting through these tough times.

Heating & Weatherization

O.C.E.A.N. Inc. 732-244-5333 (heating)

732-244-5396 (weatherization)

www.oceaninc.org

NJ Shares 866-657-4273

www.njshares.org

Mortgage Assistance

Hope Hotline 888-995-HOPE

www.hopenow.com

Health Insurance, Food Stamps, Utilities

NJ Family Care 800-701-0710

www.njfamilycare.org

OC board of Social Services 732-349-1500

Verizon NJ Communications Lifeline

888-337-3339

Ocean County Government Resource Center

732-3708854

www.ocean.nj.us/socialservices

Ocean County Food Bank 732-918-2600

www.foodbankmoc.org

Angel Food Ministries 732-240-7543

Pick-up Location Christ Episcopal Church

1415 Washington St. Toms River

www.angelfoodministries.com

Other Important Numbers

Social Security 800-772-1213

www.socialsecurity.gov

NJ Unemployment Insurance 732-761-2020

www.state.nj.us



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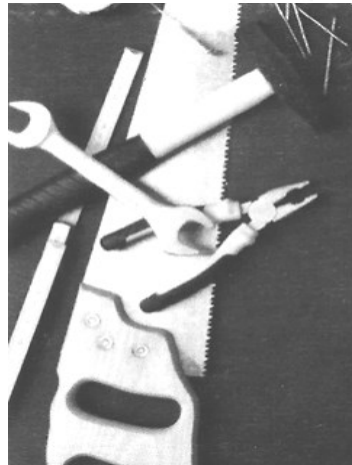
Mary Ruggiero
Assistant Vice President
Branch Manager
NMLS# 1134253

Whiting Branch
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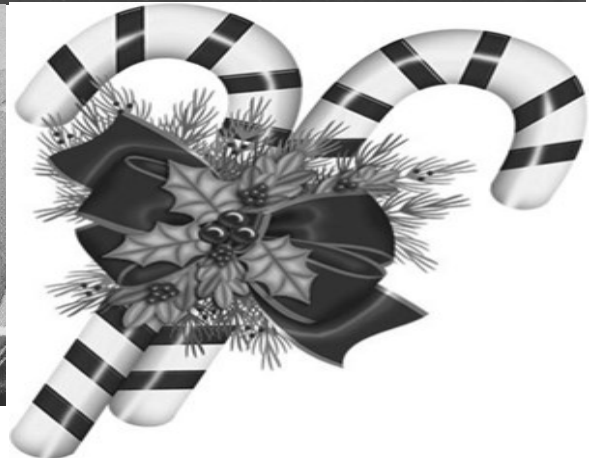
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Manager

115 Lacey Rd.
Whiting, NJ 08759
732-350-5700
Fax 732-350-2415
Cell 908-227-1194
Richard.Campana@DignityMemorial.com
NJ Lic. No. 4135



Charles Edwards "A" Salon
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732-350-2021

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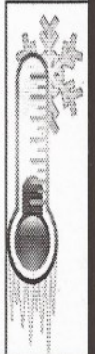
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UPCOMING EVENTS AT ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

December 1 - 10AM - Whiting Garden Club Christmas Brunch

December 2, 9, 16, 23 - 10AM-Healing Service (no service on Dec 30)

December 5, 12, 19, 26 - Services at 8AM and 10:15AM in person, and on Zoom and You Tube

December 5 - 2PM - Crestwood Chorus Concert

December 6, 13, 20, 27 - 11am - Bible Study Group on: "The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart"

December 9 - 4:30PM - Christmas Tree Lighting

December 12 - after the 8AM and 10:15AM services - Coffee hour to say "Thank You"

December 16 - 10AM - Arts and Crafts

December - Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services;

24th - 4pm, 7pm & 9pm / 25th - 10am

Our Daily Bread, clothes ministry, and more serve our community. Join us on Zoom and YOU TUBE each evening at 7PM for services. All are welcome!