



## 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 Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr., Rector

Greg Mathews, Parish Administrator

Geraldine Vergona, Treasurer

Esther Graham, Music Director

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

### Wardens and Vestry 2024

Stefanie Bodine, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

Roberta Mackey, Maryann Payne, Robert Virtue

Bill Bodine, Blanche Dwonch, Kay Karlick

Tom Larson, Ann Solaequi, Geraldine Vergona

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.



*Fourth Sunday of Easter*  
*Good Shepard Sunday*



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II**

**APRIL 21, 2024  
8 & 10 am**

**Save the Date on Upcoming Events**



<i>Hymnal</i>	<i>The Word of God</i>	<i>BCP</i>
708	Processional Hymn: “ <i>Savior Like A Shepherd Lead Us</i> ” Easter Acclamation	355
S280	Gloria Collect of the Day First Lesson: <i>Acts of the Apostles 4:5-12</i> <b>Psalm 23</b> Second Lesson: <i>John 3:16-24</i> Gradual: “ <i>Word of God, speak</i> ” (Lyrics below) Gospel: <i>John 10:11-18</i>	Insert Insert Insert Insert
	Sermon — <i>The Rev. Paul A. Van Sant, Sr.</i> The Nicene Creed Prayers of the People Form VI Confession and Absolution The Peace Announcements Offertory Anthem Doxology: “ <i>All things come of thee O Lord</i> ”	358 392 360

***HOLY COMMUNION***

	Eucharistic Prayer D	372
S120	Sursum Corda	
S125	Sanctus	
S140	Memorial Acclamation The Lord’s Prayer Breaking of the Bread	368 364
S152	Fraction Anthem Communion Hymns:	
325	“ <i>Let us break bread together</i> ”	
664	“ <i>My Shepherd Will Supply My Need</i> ”	
646	“ <i>The King Of Love My Shepherd Is</i> ”	
	Post Communion Prayer Blessing	365
205	Recessional: “ <i>Good Christians All Rejoice</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*

**WOMAN’S BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

“The Bible, What Speaks to your Heart”, gathering on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the each month at 11am. 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.

**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.

**VESTRY MEETING**

Monday, April 22nd @ 10am.

**RADA ORDERS**

Contact Joy Frey and use the catalog to order Rada as soon as possible.

**Bowling Ministry**

We are proud and pleased to announce that **Fence Financial, The Heritage Restaurant** and **Nona’s Place** are now proud sponsors of our upcoming **KOH** tournament at Thunderbowl Lanes Wrightstown NJ!

**DBE Bake Sale Fundraiser**

The (Daughters of the British Empire) will be having a Bake Sale on **Sunday, April 28th**. Please visit our tables and enjoy some delicious delectables and help support National Charities helping others throughout the surrounding communities.

**Garden Club**

Garden Club will be meeting on May 1st at 10am for a day with the Lavender Lady here at St. Stephen’s.

**OSL**

Our next meeting is May 9th after the 11am healing service



**CHAPEL CLOTHESLINE** ~ We are now accepting **SPRING** 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 to, and purchases from, this fundraising project. Please save donations for September Dignified Junk Sale until summer.

Sincerely, Linda Chiappetta

**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.



**coffee hour** A new sign-up sheet is in the Narthex for 2024 - 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

**Memorial Garden For Pets**

Keep an eye out for our next Memorial Service Date.

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

***Collect of the Day***

☪ God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

***A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 4:5-12***

☪ On the morrow their rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a cripple, by what means this man has been healed, be it known to you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by him this man is standing before you well.

“This is the stone, which was rejected by you builders, but which has become the head of the corner.

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

# Psalm 23

*Dominus regit me*

1 **T**he LORD is my shepherd; \*

I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures \*

and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul \*

and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I shall fear no evil; \*

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*

you have anointed my head with oil,

and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.



## Order of Saint Luke

The Order of St. Luke meets on the second Thursday of each month— January 11th, 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



**ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE** **doe**  
Presents  
**Bake<sup>a</sup> Sale Fundraiser**

**Sunday April 28th**  
9 AM 1:30 P.M.  
at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
180 Rt 539 Whiting NJ 08759

**Open to the public**

*Come and enjoy delicious confections and help raise funds to support local NJ charities in our surrounding communities.*

WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR

**28<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL**

**BLESSING OF THE BIKES and**  
**Father Paul's Retirement**

**SUNDAY MAY 5th 2024**

**HOURS 12 TO 4 RAIN OR SHINE**

BIKES WILL BE BLESSED AT 2 pm  
BY: **FATHER PAUL VAN SANT**  
Donation \$15 per person  
Proceeds to benefit St. Stephen's Ministry  
**NO CHARGE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10**

Ticket price includes Pork, Barbeque, Non-Alcoholic Beverages,  
Family's Welcome, Trophies

There will be a Bike Show for Best Bike at the Blessing

**Our Address is**  
ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH  
**180 RT 539, WHITING, NJ 08759**

For info on where to purchase tickets & directions call the Church at:  
**732-350-2121 (Mon-Thurs 10am to 2pm)**

## 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.**

## A LEGACY SUMMIT

### FOR ESTATE AND WILL PLANNING

April 27th @ 10AM - 1PM

With a break for lunch

Registration is required

Please contact our office at 732-350-2121,  
or stop in and sign up in our Narthex.

## TECH THURSDAY

Tech Thursday meets monthly. Keep an eye out for our new dates to come. Bring your tablet, computer, phone, i pad, etc. to the meeting. Estelle Pizzuti and/or Bill Bodine will be able assist you.

## 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)

## *A Reading from the First letter of John 3:16-24*

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or speech but indeed and in truth.

By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who keep his commandments abide in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit which he has given us.

## *A Reading From the Gospel According to John 10:11-18*

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So, there shall be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason, the Father loves me, because I lay down my life, that I may take it again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again; this charge I have received from my Father.”



*Welcome to St. Stephen's*

This Sunday of Easter is traditionally called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Each year we hear a part of Jesus’ discourse on his relationship to us in the image of the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd loves his sheep so much that he lays down his life for them. We are called by him into his life which he has given for us.

Today’s reading from the Acts of the Apostles brings us another of Peter’s sermons proclaiming the Resurrection. This sermon captures some of the great excitement which the apostles had in their new life in the risen Lord. It continues by describing how these first Christians shared all aspects of their life together.

The reading today from 1 John tells us that we are God’s children. Our identity now comes from God, and our lives are to reflect God’s own nature and love. How we live reveals our relationship to God. Thus, the description of the church as the Body of Christ is not merely an analogy. It describes our life together as the embodiment of Christ’s love and mercy toward all people. We are not only “the sheep of his pasture,” but we are to shepherd all his people in his name.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*. Copyright © 1998 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

### *Serving in the Liturgy today:*

Lector 8:00 am  
LEM 8:00 am  
Altar Guild 8:00 am  
Ushers 8:00 am  
Lector 10:00 am  
LEM 10:00 am  
Altar Guild 10:00am  
Ushers 10:00 am

*Joann Smithson  
Richard Smithson, Joann Smithson, Dottie Kaster  
Linda Chiappetta  
Glenn Mortimer, Mary Storey, Bill Bodine  
Valerie Thompson  
Bill Bodine, Susan Clarke, Kay Karlick  
Beverly Larson, Karen Mauro  
Al Thompson, Valerie Thompson*



### *Sanctuary Candle*

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

*In Memory of Loved ones by Bill and  
Stefanie Bodine*

### *Altar Flowers*

*Altar Flowers are given to  
the Glory of God*

*In Memory of Loved ones by Bill and  
Stefanie Bodine*

