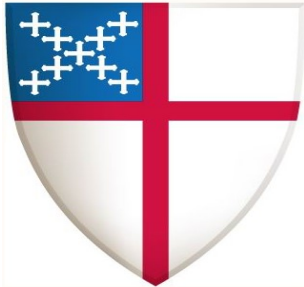


The Chapel Chimes



From the Rector's Desk...

New and Improved

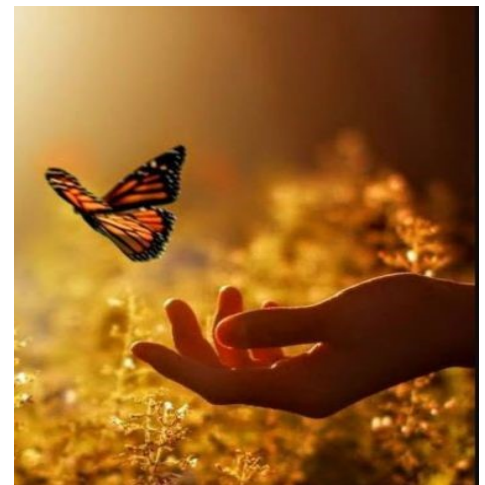
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Have you ever noticed how things are marketed to us? We are told that we shouldn't be happy with what we have unless it is the most current model or includes the latest gizmo. This pattern of salesmanship reached a head in the auto industry when it began to release a new model car every year. Didn't your old car still run? Didn't it still get you from point A to point B at the allowable speed limit? But, the advertising would say, it doesn't have power steering or power windows, or heated seats, and it isn't capable of doing 150 mph!

Now that we are in the 21st century this method of marketing has gone to the next stage. Take your cell phone for example. New models and features are released almost weekly! If you have version 1.1 now you need version 1.7 or your apps won't work. If you own an i-phone 8, your told you can't live without an i-phone 9. I have been taking a considerable amount of razzing lately because I have an i-phone 6+ and Apple just released the i-phone 11. How can I live with such an outdated phone, they ask.

The point is that no matter how many improvements you make, or how many new features you add, you still have the same basic thing that you started with. A car is a car. You get in it. You start it. You go from A to B. You get out. Based on the car you may get there faster or more comfortably, but you get there none the less. A phone is a phone. You dial it. You talk (or text). You may leave a



message. You hang up. Based on the phone you may see who you're talking to. You might be able to take a picture of things around you, or play a game while you're on hold,

Continued on page 4



MUSIC NOTES

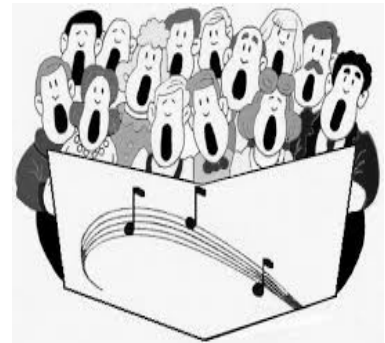


Wouldn't it be fun to have a church orchestra and lots of instrumental music included in our services? We don't have to be perfect. We just have to love to use our music to worship God and encourage our congregation.

I Was Made to Praise You

**1. I was made to praise You
I was made to glorify Your name
In ev'ry circumstance
To find a chance to thank You
I was made to love You
I was made to worship at Your feet
And to obey You Lord
I was made for You**

**2. I will always praise You
I will always glorify Your name
In ev'ry circumstance
I'll find a chance to thank You
I will always love You
I will always worship at Your feet
And I'll obey You Lord
I was made for You**



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The new year has begun. We are ready with all kinds of plans, resolutions and promises. One of my new years plans is to be a better musician, a better leader, and woe of all woes, a little, if not a lot, more organized in my life. So, with that in mind I got to thinking about what the Word of God says in Colossians, 3:23 – (Esther paraphrased from NIV) – *Whatever you do, work at it with all your hearts, as working for the Lord, not for human (bosses), since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.*

I am well aware that, for some, just coming out at 10:00 am on Wednesday morning is a lot of work. I'm also very much aware that for most of us, working on our Sunday Anthems, old pieces, and new pieces, can be A LOT of work. But, we wouldn't do this every week if there weren't a reward for our actions.

Every week, we come here to St. Stephen's and spend about 1 ½ hour together and work very hard on making sure that our music is pleasing to not only God but to the congregation that we love so much.

On Christmas Eve, we had the wonderful gift of beautiful Trumpet music. Thanks, Bill Bodine, that was awesome. This has me thinking. . . I would love to invite any musicians out there to let me know that you play an instrument or sing.

The Chapel Chimes

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St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
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Articles are welcomed 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 FEBRUARY
January 6, 2020
(first Monday of the month)**

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Rector

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

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Tom Larson

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Sexton *Tom O'Brien*

Office Volunteer *Carl Laursen*

HELP HOTLINE NUMBERS

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 Communication Lifeline

888-337-3339

Ocean County Government Resource Center

732-370-8854

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

but in the end you have shared a message and are done. It's the same with life itself. We say that this is a New Year, but in reality it's not. It's just another version of the last one. We can make changes or improvements this year, but it's just another year. The only way we can experience something really new, really better, is to be in relationship with God through His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus came to this earth, not to offer us a better earthly experience, but to give us a truly new life. This life is not an improved model with updated features. It is completely different. No longer mortal but immortal. No longer a lone individual, but part of the body of Christ and a member of His Heavenly Kingdom. As we celebrate the coming of the babe in Bethlehem and His Epiphany to the world we become New in the most profound sense. In the Revelation of John 21:5 it says: "And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful." (KJV)

We need not go on yearning for a better, or richer, or healthier, or more comfortable life; rather we should be basking in a radically new life; a life in relationship with Jesus Christ the Son of God.

May we all share in this new life together,

M. Div.;Th.M.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Paul". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

Rector





ECW News



By Stefanie Rotsaert



Thank you to everyone who signed the Church Christmas Card, and attended the Festival of Trees in Village 7. We at the ECW are grateful for those who support our ministry while attending our functions. Remember: every woman is a member of ECW. We reciprocate the support from the Men's Club, as all are welcome in our endeavor to reach out to our communities as we share God's love and blessings.

The 2020 Meetings for the ECW will be held at 1 PM on Thursdays—June 4th, September 3rd, and December 3rd. Each meeting will feature a program, a business meeting, and refreshments. We will gather to 'brainstorm' ideas for upcoming events and fundraising and can be quite enjoyable! We look forward to the vital support we receive from all of you.

At our last ECW meeting of the year, on December 5th, the following officers were elected for the 2020 year: Stefanie Rotsaert—President; Marge Pomykala—Vice President; Mary Storey—Secretary; Kay Karlick Treasurer. We'd like to thank Laura Gural for serving as Nominations Chair.

The first fund-raiser of the year is our *Annual Bake-less Bake Sale*. Since all of us are so busy, instead of baking, taking the time to buy ingredients and then have a bake sale, we ask if you would consider putting that amount in our "Bake-less Bake Sale" envelopes instead of baking. Thank you for your support! And thank you, Joy Frey for your help this year.

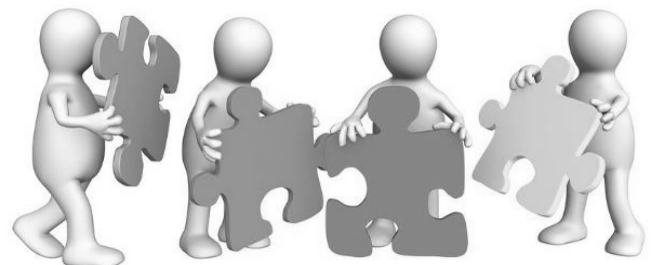
Whiting Garden Club will not be meeting in January. At our February meeting, we will make flower arrangements for hospice. Empty, clean tuna fish/ cat food cans are needed. If you plan to join us, please let Stefanie know so she can order enough fresh flowers for everyone. Bring scissors, clippers, or a knife. All other supplies will be available to help create a lovely arrangement.

Trips for 2020 are being planned. So far, the Philadelphia Flower Show Riveria Holiday" will be attended on Monday, March 2, 2020 and "Queen Esther" at Sight and Sound is scheduled for September 22, 2020. There are flyers in the Narthex. For questions, please call Stefanie.











Stefanie Rotsaert

ECW President

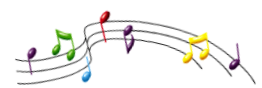
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2020 ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

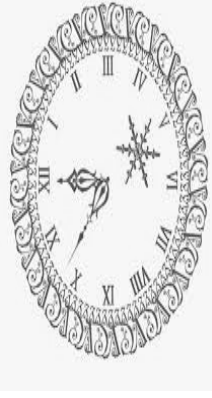
Tuesday, February 25 th	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner (4 PM – 6PM)	
Monday, March 2 nd	Bus Trip to Philadelphia Flower Show (12 Noon – 8PM)	
Friday, March 6 th	World Day of Prayer (at St. Stephen's) (1 PM)	
Saturday, March 14 th	Corned Beef Dinner (3 PM)	
Saturday, April 4 th	Dollar Auction (12 Noon)	
Saturday, April 11 th	Easter Vigil at Cathedral in Trenton (Details to be announced)	
Thursday, April 16 th	English Tea #1 (2 PM – 4 PM)	
Saturday, April 25 th	Flea Market (9 AM – 2 PM)	
Saturday, May 2 nd	Blessing of the Bikes (Noon – 4 PM)	
Saturday, May 16 th	OSL Healing Mission (8 AM – 3 PM)	
Thursday, May 21 st	English Tea #2 (2 PM – 4 PM)	
Monday, June 1 st ♦	Community Micah Award Dinner (4:30 PM)	
Thursday, June 4 th	ECW Meeting (1 PM)	
Saturday, July 18 th ♦	Bluegrass & Blueberry (1 PM – 3 PM)	
Thursday, September 3 rd	ECW Meeting (1 PM – 3 PM)	
Saturday, September 5 th	Annual Fair / Dignified Junque (8 AM – 1 PM)	
Sunday, September 13 th ♦	Homecoming Barbecue (Noon – 2PM)	
Thursday, September 17 th	ECW Fashion Show (1 PM – 3 PM)	
Tuesday, September 22 nd	Sight & Sound: “Queen Esther” (8:30 AM – 8:30 PM)	
Saturday, October 3 rd ♦	Pasta & More Dinner (Sponsors: ECW & Men's Club) or Designer Bag Bingo	
Saturday, October 17 th	Women of Honor Luncheon 11 AM – 2 PM / off-site	
Sunday, October 18 th	Community Crop Walk (at Community Reformed Church) (1:30 PM – 3 PM)	
Tuesday, October 20 th ♦	Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Coupon Day (8 AM – 11 PM)	
Saturday, October 24 th ♦	Crafts and Vendor Fair (9 AM – 2 PM)	
Sunday, November 22 nd ♦	Pineland Symphonic Band Concert (3 PM)	
Thursday, December 3 rd	ECW Meeting (1 PM – 3PM)	
Thursday, December 10 th ♦	WBA Christmas Tree Lighting Community Celebration (4PM – 6PM)	


Printed: 12/23/2019 2:40 PM ♦ Date is subject to change





January 2020



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 AA Meeting 3 PM	2 Healing Service 10AM AA Meeting 3 PM	3 P i n e l a n d Symphonic Band Practice 9 AM	4 AA Meeting 8PM
5 HOLY EUCHARIST 8 AM & 10 AM AA Meeting @ 8PM	6 Boy Scouts 6:30-8:30pm	7 Closed AA meeting @ 2PM Cub scouts 7pm	8 AA Meeting 3 PM	9 Healing Service 10AM AA Meeting 3 PM	10 P i n e l a n d Symphonic Band Practice 9 AM	11 AA Meeting 8PM
12 HOLY EUCHARIST 8 AM & 10 AM AA Meeting @ 8PM	13 Thyroid Support Grp 10 am Vestry Meeting 10am Boy scouts 6:30-8:30 pm	14 Closed AA meeting @ 2PM Cub scouts 7pm	15 AA Meeting 3 PM	16 Healing Service 10 AM AA Meeting 3 PM	17 P i n e l a n d Symphonic Band Practice 9 AM	18 AA Meeting 8PM
19 HOLY EUCHARIST 8 AM & 10 AM AA Meeting @ 8PM	20 Boy scouts 6:30-8:30 pm	21 Closed AA meeting @ 2PM Cub scouts 7pm	22 AA Meeting 3 PM	23 Healing Service 10AM AA Meeting 3 PM	24 P i n e l a n d Symphonic Band Practice 9 AM	25 AA Meeting 8PM
26 HOLY EUCHARIST 9 am today only Annual Meeting Day AA Meeting@8pm	27 Boy scouts 6:30-8:30 pm	28 Closed AA meeting @ 2PM Cub scouts 7pm	29 AA Meeting 3 PM	30 Healing Service 10AM AA Meeting 3 PM	31 P i n e l a n d Symphonic Band Practice 9 AM	31 AA Meeting 8PM

Order of Saint Luke

Do you need Prayers for Healing

The Order of Saint Luke is a Healing Ministry. On the last Sunday of each month, prayers of healing are provided following Holy Eucharist at the 8 AM and 10 AM services at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church. Members are also available after Sunday services near the Baptismal Font. In addition, prayers are offered at our 10 AM Healing Service on Thursdays.



PRAYER OF THE ORDER OF ST. LUKE THE PHYSICIAN

Almighty God, who inspired Your servant 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.

Matthew 23:8-10 says:

“Don’t ever let anyone call you “Rabbi” for you have only one Teacher, and all of you are on the same level as brothers and sisters. And don’t address anyone here on earth as “Father” for only God in Heaven is your spiritual Father. And don’t let anyone call you “master”, for there is only one Master; the Messiah”

Found in “Student’s Life Application Bible”

By Tyndale House Publishers

Submitted by: Margaret Poper

OSL Mission



Moving Forward to a New Year of Promise

Be strong, be courageous; it is time to move forward!

Jesus has big dreams for us—those of hope, promise, healing, and restoration. IT takes time to listen, to care, to pray, to read, to study, and to work with others. But you can do this!

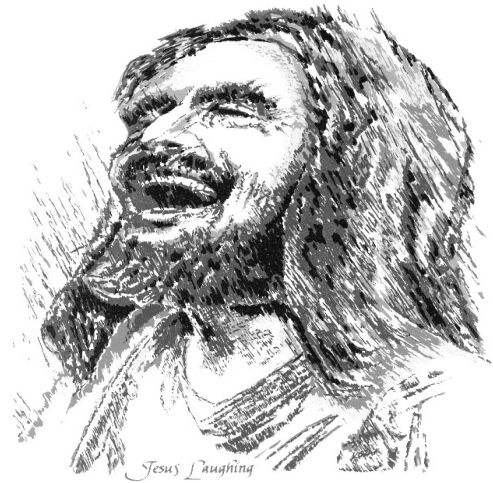
Be encouraged; sing God’s praises! Celebrate His life and His life-changing love for us. Seek His guidance; be humble. Let God saturate your presence, your person, and move forward. Build a strong foundation from your Bible readings. There are blessings and joy for each of us. Share with others. Forgive. Be powerful, free, and move forward into this New Year that holds new promises and new joys with Christ. You can do this!

Submitted by:

Stefanie Rotsaert

Live Your Faith

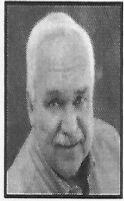
Laughing is Good for the Soul



If you like the picture of Jesus laughing on the top right of this page, you can obtain a color print in a variety of standard sizes from any of your local Christian book stores.



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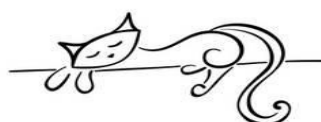


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(We publish one issue for July/August.)

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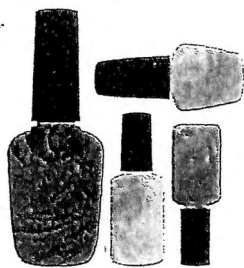
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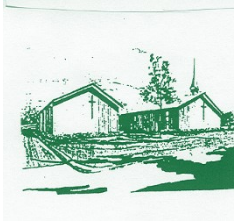
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Upcoming Calendar Events

A Happy New YEAR!

Dollar Auction—April 4th

