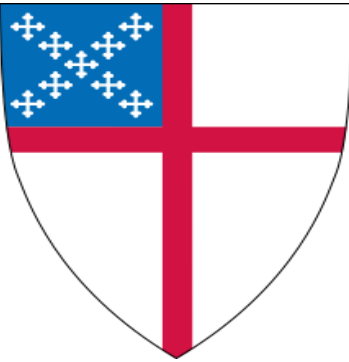




The Chapel Chimes



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From the
Rector's Desk...

"Wind and Fire"

"When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability." (Acts 2:1-4)

Well, talk about a grand entrance! This was the introduction of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles as recorded by St. Luke; and yes, this is the same Luke who wrote the Gospel. However the Holy Spirit did not simply appear in Acts for the first time in the Bible. The Spirit has been active in the world since before the beginning of time.

The first chapter of Genesis records: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters." There was the Spirit, participating in the first day of creation. Later we see God's Holy Spirit gifting the first King of the unified Israel with the gift of prophecy: "When Saul came to Gib'e-ah,^[9] behold, a band of prophets met him; and the spirit

of God came mightily upon him, and he prophesied among them. ¹¹ And when all who knew him before saw how he prophesied with the prophets, the people said to one another, "What has come over the son of Kish?" (1 Samuel 10:10-11a) Another King of Israel, David, wrote a psalm of contrition to God asking him:



"Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy Spirit from me." (Psalm 51:11)

Moving to the New Testament, the birth of Jesus was accomplished through the agency of the Holy Spirit: "Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit;" (Matthew 1:18)

(Continued on next page)



The Chapel Chimes

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Later at the baptism of Jesus: “And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opened and the Spirit descending upon him like a dove;” (Mark 1:10) When Jesus was baptized by John, John noted to the onlookers that the baptism that Jesus will offer is qualitatively different from John’s: “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.” (Matthew 3:11)

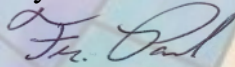
We come to the end of Jesus’ earthly ministry and he gives one last instruction: “These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.” (John 14:25) Also in Acts it is reported: “And while staying^[a] with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 1:4-5)

And we have come full circle. “When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.” (Acts 2:1-4)

It is this same Holy Spirit that each of us has received at our baptisms: “N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. *Amen.* (BCP pg.308)

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God?” (1 Corinthians 6:19) Listen to His Spirit that indwells you. And do His will.

May the Spirit of God Enlighten your mind, strengthen your body, and save your soul. Amen!



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



Easter Eggs

Easter baskets and eggs for the children. Thanks to all the parishioners that so generously filled those little plastic eggs with chocolate candies, coins, and other delicious candies. With baskets in hand, a soft stuffed animal, and small chocolate bunnies, young children gathered in the labyrinth to gather their eggs. Baskets were quickly filled and contents enjoyed by children and parents. Thanks to all the generous and caring parishioners that added a little happiness to so many young lives. Thank you especially to Linda Chiappetta for helping me put the eggs in the labyrinth.

Thank you,
Stefanie Bodine

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

Esther Graham

Stefanie Bodine

Gerrie Vergona

Susan Clarke

Bill Bodine

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 for the following month)

Any Questions, please feel free to contact us

(732) 350-2121 ext 10

Music Notes

Trust His Heart

*... All things work for our good
Though sometimes we don't see
How they could
Struggles that break our hearts in two
Sometimes blind us to the truth
... Our Father knows what's best for us
His ways are not our own
So when your pathway grows dim
And you just don't see Him,
Remember you're never alone
... God is too wise to be mistaken
God is too good to be unkind
So when you don't understand
When don't see His plan
When you can't trace His hand
Trust His Heart
Trust His Heart
... He sees the master plan
And he holds our future in His hand,
So don't live as those who have no hope,
All our hope is found in Him*

*... We see the present clearly
But He sees the first and the last
And like a tapestry He's weaving you and me,
To someday be just like Him
... God is too wise to be mistaken
God is too good to be unkind
So when you don't understand
When don't see His plan
When you can't trace His hand
Trust His Heart
... He alone is faithful and true
He alone knows what is best for you
... God is too wise to be mistaken
God is too good to be unkind
So when you don't understand
When don't see His plan
When you can't trace His hand
Trust His Heart
... When you don't understand
When you don't see His plan
... When you can't trace His hand
Trust His Heart
Trust His Heart*

Source: LyricFind
Songwriters: Babbie Y. Mason / Eddie Carswell
Trust His Heart lyrics © Concord Music Publishing LLC, Warner Chappell Music, Inc

How do you react when you face the unexpected challenges of life which suddenly appear in our lives and wear us down? Often, as much as we try, we can't seem to find the answers or directions. And, sadly, we often think that God has abandoned us and our reactions can range from panic, to doubt, and often to complaining. We know that we should trust the Lord, but when you can't see the future or control it yourself, that isn't always so easy. We know verses like Proverbs 3:5,6 and we know that the Lord has never failed us, but we still stumble on, often discouraged and depressed. Unfortunately, I must say, "been there done that." But we must remember that our God is all-knowing and wise and we should be able to trust His heart. After all, we are His workmanship. He has made us and has a plan for our lives. And our God is good and loving and that should even help us more to trust His heart.

The words of this week's song choice were popularized in 1989 by Christian singer-songwriter Babbie Mason who with Eddie Carswell wrote "Trust His Heart". In an interview, Mason said the song was influenced by a North Atlanta pastor who "became inspired by the words that Charles Haddon Spurgeon had coined in his writings, 'God is too wise to be mistaken. God is too good to be unkind. And, when you can't trace His hand, you can always trust His heart.'" God wants you to trust His heart even when you don't understand His plan for your life. Trust HIS heart, not your heart. Trust HIS wisdom, not your wisdom. Trust HIS way not your way.

(continued on next page)

Know that His heart will never take you where His grace cannot take care of you. Now, as I write this blog, I realize that it is often easy to give advice to somebody else even when you have not faced the same challenges. But it is often much more difficult to claim that advice for your life and for the challenges that you are facing during tough times. "Dear Lord, when the challenges of life come and we are overwhelmed, help us to remember ... we see the present clearly, but you see the first and the last ... You see the master plan and You hold our future in Your hand ... and when we don't understand, when we don't see Your plan, when we can't trace Your hand ... may we trust Your heart. Thank you Lord

Esther Graham, Minister of Music



Daughters of the British Empire

The (DBE) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit American society of women of British or Commonwealth of Nations birth, heritage or ancestry. We share and promote our heritage while supporting local charities and our senior living facilities across the United States. To learn more about our local chapter, here in Ocean County

please email *Joan Saunders* – njstateorganizer@gmail.com

About Forgiveness

Forgiveness is a good way to rid yourself of anger and resentment. Resentment is unfulfilled expectations. Forgiveness can rid yourself of those expectations.

Forgiveness starts with a personal reflection. Examine your actions and intentions. Who decided that the other person is the enemy? Even though you were harmed, the reality is that an opposing force is needed to create a war. If you allow yourself to stop opposing, there can be no war. It is a choice.

Whenever you are harmed, you have the right to hurt. But hate the action, not the person. You will never find balance in your life, if you are focused on getting retribution. After self-reflection, consider the enemies' actions and intentions. Why did they act the way they did? Take the time to know them. By understanding your enemies, you make them human again. They are no longer the other to oppose, but rather another human that suffers and makes mistakes, as we all do. People generally respond in the way they are treated, people respond kindness with kindness, and respect with respect.

Forgiveness is a gift to yourself and to the person who harmed you. When you forgive there is an emotional release of the burden of anger, resentment; you regain balance. It is a gift to your enemy because forgiveness is your choice not to seek retribution for a harm committed. Forgiveness is not forbearance. because forbearance implies the debt still needs to be paid. Forgiveness isn't about forgetting. Nor does it eliminate the consequences. Forgiveness requires us to be strong because forgiveness makes us vulnerable. It means giving up our victimhood coping mechanism, our self-righteousness, our revenge fantasies, our excuses for failure, it compels us to move on. But forgiveness doesn't mean you need to remain in a dangerous situation. You can forgive someone but still end the relationship.

Forgiveness is different than reconciliation. Reconciliation requires a willingness from both parties. Forgiveness is your choice to give up resentment and retribution. Reconciliation requires confession and repentance. Trust can only be restored if there is truth and a willingness to atone. You get to choose how you feel, and how you react. But you don't control the other person's feelings. Without their willingness, there can be no reconciliation.

We all are human. We take different paths, we have different struggles, but we are all brothers and sisters. We all make mistakes, we all view our place in the world based on our own unique culture and experiences. Forgiveness is not an easy path. It is requires restraint, self reflection, and is a labor of love. But if you do the work, you can transform yourself.

By Mike Munson



ECW

(Episcopal Church Women) will meet on Thursday, June 1 at 1pm. Our speaker will be Rachel from Providence House. She will update us on their programs. Whether you can attend or not, we will collect paper towels, laundry detergent, gift cards for gas, and supermarkets. We will also discuss our plans for our future events. All women are members of ECW.

Stefanie Bodine, ECW President

Welcome to The Way of St. Paul!

The Way of St. Paul is a fellowship based in the Diocese of New Jersey made up of people dedicated to seeing Jesus at work in the lives of others, seeking out ways to help Jesus with that work, and actively doing so. This is a quiet but powerful way of living. It changes us, helps others and strengthens our congregations.

We strive to be “leaven in the dough.”

We believe that at its best, the church is a place where people have real conversations about real things. We are especially convinced that deep, reliable wisdom is found in the Bible, in the great creeds of the Church, and in the great thinkers of the Christian tradition. We have a special love for our Anglican way of being church and find it spiritually nourishing.

We gather because we believe that living and loving like Jesus requires a safe, encouraging place where we can speak honestly about our walk as his committed followers. On all of these principles, anyone can build a life of meaning and purpose. When our churches offer that *and deliver*, they grow.

St. Stephen’s is a Way of St. Paul congregation, but this ministry has gone dormant. Several former participants are interested in resuming and we are asking that all parishioners consider this as a good way to deepen their spiritual life.

Please reach out to Fr. Paul or to me to share your interest.

Susan Clarke, *jack-of-many-trades at St. Stephen’s*

St Stephen's Whiting Stewardship Committee Proudly Presents

A Legacy Summit for Estate & Will Planning

Please join us for a day of will & estate planning for your final expenses on Saturday April 29th from 10am-2pm! Will be on Zoom and YouTube.

A professional panel provided as a service and benefit to the people of our surrounding communities will be here to provide their services and help to everyone who needs this kind of planning and organizing their finances and their final expenses!

The panelists include: a doctor, a lawyer, a financial advisor, an insurance expert, Clergy, and a Funeral Home representative. Each panelist will speak for 10-15 minutes. Then people may table hop to speak individually with their queries and share available materials, and ideas. Additional tables will be in the Narthex with representatives from Beacon of Life, Caregivers of Central Ocean County, VNA, Medicare and more. Lunch will be served. A basket will be available for donations. We hope to see you there! And we sincerely hope you will take advantage of this opportunity with us and the people of our Church and community.



The Diocese
of New Jersey



Bishop's Gala

For anyone who was interested in attending the **Bishop's Farewell Gala**, some sad news.

Although the reservations deadline was listed as April 28, **reservations are now closed, for both table sponsorships and for individuals.**

If you wish, you can have your name put on a waiting list pending cancellations @ gala.ecs-nj.org.



Memorial Garden For Pets

at

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
180 Rt 539, Whiting, NJ (732) 350-2121



For all who are looking for a special place to lay your beloved pets to rest (CREMAINS ONLY)

Please contact our office Monday–Thursday 9am–2pm for services and more information.

The Memorial Garden for Pets Committee is completing creating the area, designing publicity, forms, and the notebook to keep the records of our beloved friends. Cremains of our beloved pets will be accepted for burial adjacent to our Memorial Garden. The cost is \$ 50 per pet for perpetual care. If there is a hardship, see the Chair. The Committee consists of *Stefanie Bodine, Chair; Shelagh Bluni, Roberta Mackey, Ann Solequai, Bob Virtue, and Fr. Paul*. Fr. Paul will provide a service when the pet is buried.

Forms are available in the office.



LEMs and Lectors

Congratulations everyone! We have done an outstanding job commemorating Lent. It's a season with many unique services and special opportunities. This year we instituted an intensive prayer program with Daily Offices in the morning, at noon, and in the evening.

Many thanks to those who have come forward to lead those on-line services. In addition, special thanks go out to Estelle Pizzuti who has both led services and helped work out technical difficulties together with Bill Bodine and Fr. Paul. All in all a very successful season!



OSL

A MINISTRY OF
CHRISTIAN HEALING

ORDER OF ST. LUKE

Use the Prayer of the Order if St. Luke the Physician, healing service, St. Stephen's prayer chain, do you need prayers of healing?

Believe that God can change us - "Think of some change you long to see in your life. Believe that God will dream than change into being for you.". "The Lord can change us, he wants to change us, he loves to change us, And this he does through love. He only asks for our faith:.. to give space to his love so it may act and bring about a change of life in us.". from Diane Houdek, and Pope Francis in The Hope of Lent: Daily Reflections from Pope Francis.

Is there someone in your life that you struggle to pray for? Are you willing to invite Jesus to pray with you for that person? Or to walk with Jesus to the suffering, lonely, or outcast--to minister to someone who feels they have no one to help? The outcome is up to Him Pray in the Spirit. Listen for how Jesus would like you to bless this person. Pronounce the blessing out loud. Ask a friend to pray with you for this person.

Devoted to Prayer - Charles Stanley recently wrote about intimacy with God grows as we spend time with Him. One of the most important aspects of Christian life is making it your habit to spend time with God, meditating on His Word and praying. In Colossians 4:2-4, we are taught to devote ourselves to prayer. We are developing a relationship with God. When we read and meditate on God's Word, He teaches us His character and heart. Set aside a time and place to meet with the Lord. He will be there. Over time, you will enjoy a deep, peaceful relationship with Him that translates into a passion for obedience and a powerful witness to others.

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*

HEALING SERVICE

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

Available on **You Tube** and **Zoom!**

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.

DO YOU NEED PRAYERS FOR HEALING?

Your prayers have been included in our 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 STEPHENS PUBLIC RELATIONS TEAM
OFF TO AN OUTSTANDING START IN 2023!!!

Everyone can be proud of St Stephen's Public Relations! The team is off to a terrific start this year, and our tireless work and efforts have yielded so many positive results! In addition, we have improved our audio/video capabilities by adding a new webcam and a wireless microphone. And most recently, we created a new church Instagram account. Things are progressing very, very well, and we continue to seek additional help from you. Whether you're a seasoned computer techie or have very limited or no skill set, we can use your help! Church events are building, and we can definitely use your time, talent, and dedication. We already have a talented and dynamite team of parishioners who graciously volunteered their support for the public relations team. And there's much more to do! If you enjoy helping the church with this ongoing effort to ensure proper coverage of all St Stephen's whitening events, please join us at our next meeting after Easter on Sunday, April 16th! This awesome juggernaut of a team puts forth a lot of time to help the church in this endeavor.

We're asking all Ministry and organization chairpersons to please use the new public relations form available in the narthex for your event coverage. It surely helps us tremendously so we can give you the coverage you need for success. In addition, we continue to turn old smartphones into webcams for church services. If you have any old smartphones that have a camera please consider donating them to the church. We will certainly put them to good and beneficial use.

If you have ideas, suggestions, or just want to come and see us in action, come to our next meeting! You will not be disappointed, and you might even enjoy participating on the team! Public relations is an ongoing, year round effort, and our team is looking to grow! Come out and see us! Or you can also contact me should you have additional questions about public relations.

May God continue to bless our beloved St Stephen's whitening, our parish family, and our dynamic team!

By William Bodine III - Chairman



A MESSAGE FROM THE ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild wishes to thank all those who so generously contributed to the Easter Flower Memorials. The moneys received enabled us to beautify the Sanctuary for Easter in Glory to our Risen Christ. It will also help to offset the operating expenses for the Guild, and for this we are very grateful.

The Guild is responsible for providing and maintaining all vessels and adornments of the Church, such as Sunday flowers, altar bread and wine, candle fuel, all linens and vessels used at each service, and any item used for special occasions, such as palms for Palm Sunday. We are very thankful for the generosity of our Parish Family, some of whom continue to make donations for these specific purposes, as well as direct donations to the Altar Guild. We know we are Blessed.

During the Covid crisis, it was decided to close the Guild's separate checking account and merge the remaining moneys with the Church's account. Now, we have reopened our account and will resume responsibility for these expenses. We do not have a line item in the budget, so all donations to the Altar Guild are greatly appreciated and provide a vital service to our beloved St. Stephen's.

Since the beginning of this year, we have been placing silk flowers on the altar (many thanks to the generosity of Stefanie Bodine), because the cost of flowers (and everything else) has significantly increased. We are hopeful we will soon be able to return to fresh flowers on the altar, and we encourage all parishioners to prayerfully consider donating to this effort. You may do this by remembering or honoring a loved one, or by expressing thanksgiving for a blessing. Anyone wishing to request a memorial or honor a birthday or anniversary with a donation is welcomed to contact Valerie Thompson for information on how to do this.

Once again, we continue to encourage all who may be interested to consider volunteering for the Altar Guild as a way to share your time and talents. This is an essential service to the Church, and additional help is always needed and greatly appreciated.

Many thanks again for all your help. God Bless You All.

Valerie Thompson, Directress
Home 732-657-4510 Cell 732-236-9640



FAMILY FUN DAY DANCE SPECTACULAR

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023, 12-4 PM

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church - Whiting, NJ, will have a brand new Family Fun Day Dance Spectacular, to be held on Sunday, June 4th, 2023, from 12-4pm in the Parish Hall.

The event will feature *DJ Louie Sauchelli*, and we'll have a luncheon as well as a Treasure Auction! There is no charge for the event; however, a free will offering will be available for donations. The Dance Spectacular is open to the public, and we invite our surrounding communities to join us! New families are invited to attend our 10am Service prior to the event.

So come on out, and dance until your heart's content on a June afternoon with us at St Stephen's Whiting! And indulge in all the eats and treats we can offer you! And we hope that you'll consider becoming a new member of the Parish! Lots of fun awaits on Sunday, June 4th! St. Stephen's Episcopal Church - Whiting, NJ - a community Church for everyone!

For further information please call Bill Bodine, Dance Spectacular Team Chairman @ 848-210-4206, or contact Greg at St. Stephen's Parish Office @ 732-350-2121 to register.

GPS: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

180 Route 539 - Whiting, NJ 08759

Happy Birthday!

May

<i>Jeremy Busch III</i>	<i>05/01</i>
<i>David DeLouise</i>	<i>05/10</i>
<i>Stevie Ray Butler</i>	<i>05/11</i>
<i>Charlotte Corino</i>	<i>05/12</i>
<i>Ellie Walling</i>	<i>05/13</i>
<i>Joanne Iacovelli-Lemmon</i>	<i>05/15</i>
<i>Esther Graham</i>	<i>05/18</i>
<i>Conceicao Sutherland</i>	<i>05/19</i>
<i>Jean Hanko</i>	<i>05/21</i>
<i>Margie Pomykala</i>	<i>05/21</i>
<i>Gerald Brown</i>	<i>05/28</i>
<i>Hilary Taliaferro</i>	<i>05/30</i>
<i>Ginny Bray</i>	<i>05/30</i>

June

<i>William Kaster</i>	<i>06/02</i>
<i>Judith O'Neil</i>	<i>06/04</i>
<i>Patricia Russo</i>	<i>06/06</i>
<i>Randy Walton</i>	<i>06/06</i>
<i>Barbara Lavinio</i>	<i>06/07</i>
<i>Jurgen Busch</i>	<i>06/16</i>
<i>William Bodine III</i>	<i>06/22</i>
<i>Joan Kliemisch</i>	<i>06/23</i>
<i>June Coles</i>	<i>06/26</i>
<i>Margaret Poper</i>	<i>06/26</i>
<i>Florence Helger</i>	<i>06/28</i>

MESSAGE BOARD

WHITING GARDEN CLUB

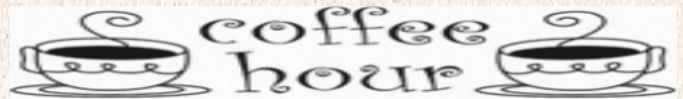
will meet on Wednesday, May 3 at 10AM. Our speaker will be Ellen Karcher on Lavender. No dues, no minutes. All are welcome. We are working on our speakers for next year. Contact Stefanie at (732) 350-2904

ONLINE CHURCH SERVICES

Please see our lists of service on page 8 and 9 for online streaming. Holy Eucharist is held every Sunday at 8AM and 10:15AM on zoom and you tube as well. All are welcome! COME AND SEE!!!
Compline will return after Easter.

THYROID SUPPORT GROUP

Thyroid Support Group will meet on Monday, May 8 at 10am. Anyone with a thyroid problem or looking for information or support for one, come and see. Call the facilitator, Stefanie Bodine at (732) 350-2904



Thank you to everyone that volunteered to create a delicious Coffee Hour. Thank you to everyone that donated baked goods, cookies, coffee, tea-bags, creamers, paper products, paper towels, take-home boxes, and more. Everything is appreciated.

Everyone enjoys the Coffee Hour. And they are sad when we do not have one. You can collaborate with family, friends, alone, or ask someone else to help you. If 2-3 people join together it makes it better and easier to create the coffee hour.

So many times someone brings in one item to share at a coffee hour and it is appreciated. Many hands make light work.

AARP SAFE DRIVING COURSE

There will be an AARP safe driving class for Seniors on Tuesday, June 6 from 9am-1pm. If you are an AARP member, the cost is \$20, if not a member, the cost is \$25. Bring your driver's license. You may receive a discount on your car insurance. Call Stefanie at (732) 350-2904 to join the class.

Dollar Auction



The dollar auction has been changed to June 24th 2023, doors open at eleven. We are accepting items that need to be new not used. We are also looking for volunteers to help give out refreshments, runners to collect dollars and a banker to make change. Any questions please see me at church.

Tom Larson

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.**

☎☎☎ *Mother's Day Prayer* ☎☎☎

Lord God we pray for mothers everywhere.

Like Samuel's mother, may they have wisdom to know how to protect their children and keep them from harm.

Like Naomi, may they be able to turn hard situations into good.

Like Lois and Eunice, may they be ready to share the love of Christ with their children.

In all that they give to others may they have the joy of knowing that they too are children, held in the love and care of God.

Amen

FATHER PAUL VAN SANT

WELCOMES YOU TO JOIN US FOR OUR

27th ANNUAL

BLESSING OF THE BIKES

SUNDAY MAY 7th 2023

HOURS 12 TO 4 RAIN OR SHINE

AT

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH

180 RT 539, WHITING, NJ 08759

BIKES WILL BE BLESSED AT 2 pm BY: FATHER PAUL

Donation \$15 per person

Proceeds to benefit St. Stephen's Ministry

Ticket price includes Hamburgers and Hot Dogs, Pulled Pork,
Baked Beans and Assorted Salads

**Trophies will be awarded for: Best Bike, Oldest Rider &
Longest Distance Rider**

For info on where to purchase tickets & directions call the Church at:

732-350-2121 (Mon-Thurs 9am to 2pm)

or e-mail us at ssechurch@gmail.com

Laughter is good for the Soul



Mother's Day Word Search

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

APPRECIATE
CAKE
CARD
CHERISH

CHOCOLATE
FAMILY
FLOWERS
GIFT

LOVE
MOM
SUNDAY
THOUGHTFUL





May



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
7 <i>Blessing of the Bikes!</i> 2-4pm Fifth Sunday of Easter 8&10.4M	8 Woman's Bible Study Group 11am AA group 3pm	9 Closed AA Meeting 2pm Boy Scouts, 7:30-8:30pm	10 Choir practice 9:30-am AA Meeting 3pm	11 Healing Service 10am <i>OSL after meets</i> healing service AA Meeting 3pm	12 Pinelands Symphonic band practice 9am AA Friday Nighters 7-8pm	13 AA Meeting 8pm
14 Sixth Sunday of Easter 8&10.4M <i>Mothers Day</i>	15 AA group 3pm Woman's Bible Study Group 11am	16 Closed AA Meeting 2pm Boy Scouts, 7:30-8:30pm	17 Choir practice 9:30am AA Meeting 3pm <i>English tea Set up</i>	18 Healing Service 10am <i>ENGLISH TEA</i> 2-4 pm	19 Pinelands Symphonic band practice 9am AA Friday Nighters 7-8pm	20 AA Meeting 8pm
21 Seventh Sunday of Easter 8&10.4M	22 Vestry Meeting 10am AA group 3pm	23 Closed AA Meeting 2pm Boy Scouts, 7:30-8:30pm	24 Choir practice 9:30am Daughters of the British Empire 10:30am AA Meeting 3pm	25 Healing Service 10am AA Meeting 3pm	26 Pinelands Symphonic band practice 9am AA Friday Nighters 7-8pm	27 AA Meeting 8pm
28 Day of Pentecost Whitsunday Holy Eucharist 8&10.4M	29 Woman's Bible Study Group 11am AA group 3pm	30 Closed AA Meeting 2pm Boy Scouts, 7:30-8:30pm	31 Choir practice 10am AA Meeting 3pm			

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

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Gerrie Vergona

Assistant Treasurer

Suzan Webb

Rector's Warden

Stefanie Bodine ('25)

Property Warden

Peter Quigley ('24)

Clerk of the Vestry

JoAnn Smithson

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Class of 2024

Shelagh Bluni

Johanne Soriano

Marge Pomykala

Class of 2025

Dottie Kaster

Mary Ann Payne

Robert Virtue

Class of 2026

Bill Bodine,

Barbara Marshall Carter

Kay Karlick

Office Staff:

Parish 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

732-370-8854

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



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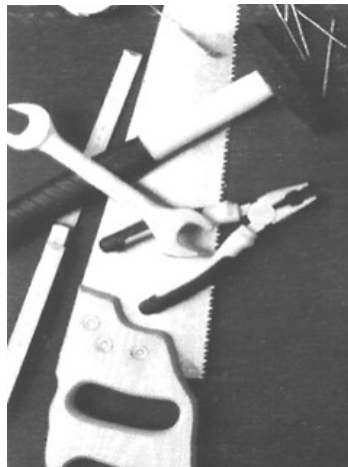
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MAY CALENDAR



Monday, May 1, 8, 15, 22 - 10am - Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, May 3 - 10am - Whiting Garden Club - Lavender Lady - Ellen Karcher

Thursday, May 4, 11, 18, 25 - 10am - Healing Service

Sunday, May 7, 14, 21, 28 - 8am, 10am - Holy Eucharist, Church Service

Sunday, May 7 - 12-4 - Blessing of the Bikes

Monday, May 8 - 10am - Thyroid Support Group

Thursday, May 11 - OSL after the Healing Service

Sunday, May 14 - Mother's Day

Wednesday, May 17 - 9am - Set up for Tea

Thursday, May 18 - 2-4pm - An American version of an English Tea

Monday, May 22 - 10am - Vestry Meeting

Thursday, May 25 - 12:30pm - Tech Thursday

Monday, May 29 - Memorial Day