

## St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

180 Route 539, Whiting, NJ 08759

Phone: 732-350-2121, Fax: 732-350-6000

ssechurch@gmail.com

www.saintstephenswhitingnj.org

### A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

The Rt. Rev. William H. (Chip) Stokes, Bishop

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

Gerianne Murphy Treasurer

Sandra Gaskill, Assistant Treasurer

Pam Unger, Organist & Choir Director

Colleen Clover, Parish Administrator

Tom O'Brien, Sexton

Dottie Kaster, Rector's Warden

### Wardens and Vestry 2019

Dottie Kaster, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

Jack Brown, Laura Gural, Tom Larson

Lillian Fink, Marge Pomykala, Peter Quigley

Pat Russo, Randy Walton

Jo Ann 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.

**Greta Pearl for prayer requests: 732-350-7584**

Please notify the church office 732/350-2121 of any illnesses or hospitalizations.

If it is an emergency you may also reach Dottie Kaster, Rector's Warden at 732-647-5065 or Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.



“I AM ASCENDING  
TO MY FATHER AND YOUR FATHER,  
TO MY GOD AND YOUR GOD.”

JOHN 20:17





**ENGLISH TEA #1**

**Thursday, April 25, 2019**

**Volunteers will be setting up the event on Wednesday.**

**If anyone would like to help, please contact Stefanie Rotsaert**

**(732) 350-2904**



**Easter Sunday**

**April 21, 2019**

**Collect of the Day**

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**First Reading**

*Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43*

And Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I perceive that God shows no partiality, but in every nation any one who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the word which he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace by Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), the word which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all that were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses to all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and made him manifest; not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that he is the one ordained by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that every one who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

**FLEA MARKET**

Come see us here at Saint Stephen's for our

Indoor Flea Market

On Saturday, April 27, 2019

From 9 AM—1 PM

There will be a 50/50 drawing and a Basket Auction.  
The Kitchen Café will be open with Lunch and Snack items available.

Rain or Shine!

For any questions, please call: Jo Ann Smithson @

732-408-5351 or 609-575-1879



## Psalm 118

- 1 Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*  
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, \*  
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 14 The LORD is my strength and my song, \*  
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
and declare the works of the LORD.
- 18 The LORD has punished me sorely, \*  
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
I will enter them;  
I will offer thanks to the LORD.
- 20 "This is the gate of the LORD; \*  
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD'S doing, \*  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the LORD has acted; \*  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.



### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HEALING SERVICE Thursday 10:00 am

CHOIR PRACTICE: Thursdays 2:00 pm

ORDER OF ST. LUKE: 2nd Thursday of each month  
after Healing Service

PINELAND SYMPHONIC BAND: Fridays 9:30 am



### CHAPEL CLOTHES LINE sells well to groups and

meeting at our church. Now accepting **LADIES Spring/Summer**  
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.



### LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED There is an UR-

GENT call out for Lay Eucharistic Ministers for our 10:00a.m. service.

Two LEMs are needed at this service.



**ST. STEPHEN'S PRAYER CHAIN** is in need of additional  
members. The Prayer Chain is a dedicated group of parishioners  
who will pray for any who are in need. If you are interested or would  
like further information, please contact Greta Pearl at 732/350-7584  
for details. Greta is the contact when placing, on the Prayer Chain,  
your name or the names of family, neighbors, or friends who would  
like prayers for healing, comfort, or any other purpose.

**HEALING PRAYERS** The Order of St. Luke provides prayers of healing to anyone after Holy Communion on the last Sunday of the month at each service. Members are also available every Sunday after the services. Look for a member near the baptismal font if you would like a prayer of healing after any service.

**YOUR PERSONAL ESTATE PLANNING** Prayerfully consider making an endowment gift to St. Stephen's as part of your estate plan.

**RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND** Thank you to all who have donated. There are parishioners as well as other members in our community who benefit greatly from this valued fund. If you wish to contribute, please use the basket on the back table.



### **STEWARDSHIP**

*“For an overseer, as God’s steward, must be above approach. Me must not be arrogant or quick-tempered, or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it. For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party.*

***Titus 1:7-10***

### **Way of Saint Paul**

Lovingly submitted by Lillian Fink

“What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,  
All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer!”

Joseph M. Scriven,

*“What a friend we have in Jesus”*

## **Second Reading**

*First Letter to the Corinthians 15:19-26*

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

## **Holy Gospel**

*John 20:1-18*

Now on the first day of the week Mary Mag'dalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying, and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rab-bo'ni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Mag'dalene went and said to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

## Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Today the Church completes its three great days of celebrating redemption. Since Maundy Thursday, we have been involved in an extended liturgy which will be brought to its conclusion today.

This is the celebration of the Passover of Christ from death to life. It is also the celebration of our own Passover in Holy Baptism in which "we were buried with Christ in his death and raised with him."

Throughout the fifty days of Easter, the first reading on Sundays is from the Acts of the Apostles rather than from the Old Testament. These weekly readings from Acts describe the life of the first Christians and their proclamation of Christ's resurrection. Today we hear a portion of the sermon Peter preached to Cornelius, the first Gentile Christian. The second reading is Paul's reflection on the meaning of the resurrection. Jesus has won out over death. Death is to be destroyed.

The Gospel reading is the account of the women at the tomb and Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene.

As we rejoice in our new life in the risen Christ on this day, he comes among us and is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. We, like the women at the tomb and like Peter and the others, are sent forth to tell the world of his resurrection.

Please feel free to join us in this celebration of God's victory over death. May you find in this gathering the assurance that God is even now raising you to new life.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*.  
Copyright © 2009 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

## Announcements

April 21, 2019

### **Prayer to send out LEMs with the Sacrament:**

**Celebrant:** N. we send you out to share Communion this week with those who have been entrusted to your care.

**People:** May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ's presence.

**Celebrant:** Continues with a closing prayer.

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

*In Memory of  
Charles Rotsaert  
By daughter Stefanie*



*The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God  
In Memory of Charles Rotsaert by daughter Stefanie*

*And  
In Memory of Patricia Laursen  
By her husband Carl and her family*

### **ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES**

The Pines  
Arista-Care  
The Arbors  
The Pines  
Crestwood Manor

1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 am  
1st Monday of each month at 2:00 pm  
2nd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm  
3rd Monday of each month at 2:00 pm  
4th Monday of each month at 2:00 pm