

## St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

180 Route 539, Whiting, NJ 08759

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

ssechurch@gmail.com

www.ststephenswhitingnj.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

### Wardens and Vestry 2019

Carl Laursen, Rector's Warden

Richard Smithson, Property Warden

Jack Brown, Laura Gural, Tom Larson

Lillian Fink, Marge Pomykala, Peter Quigley

Pat Russo, Randy Walton, Dottie Kaster

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.

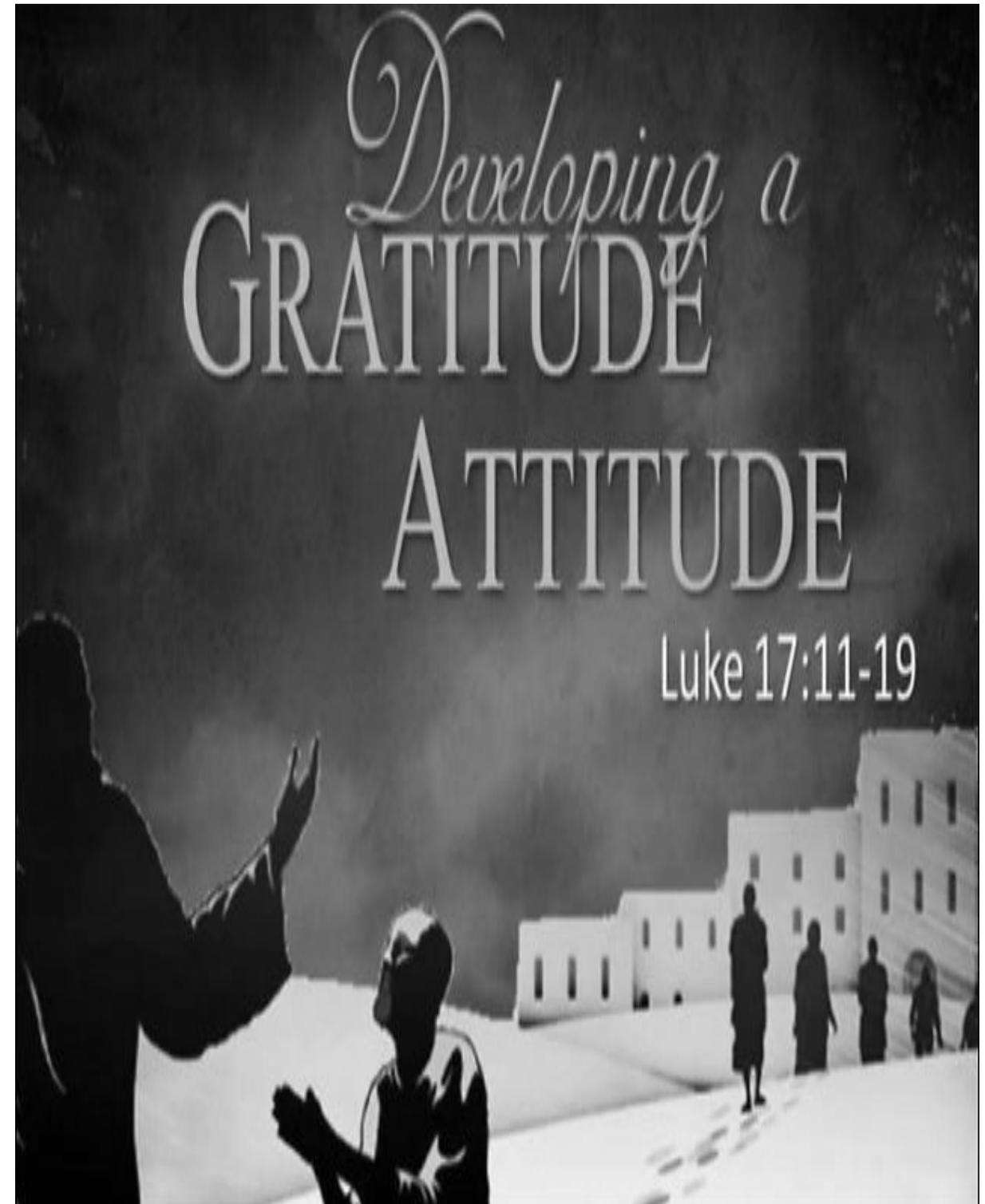
### To Report Illness, Hospitalization, etc.

**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 Carl Laursen, Rector's Warden at 732-350-1259 or

Father Paul at his home 609-268-2864.





# *Anti-racism Training: Fall 2019*

*Sponsored by the Diocese of New Jersey*

at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church 180 Route 539 Whiting NJ 08759

( 1 mile south of Route 70) In Fellowship Hall

Friday, October 4, 5:30 to 9:00 PM

Saturday, 5, 8:30 to 4:30 PM

Saturday, October 12, 8:30 to 4:30 PM

Registration Fee is \$50 per person and includes all meals

Scholarships are available through Fr. Paul

For further information and to register go to <https://dioceseofnj.org/antiracism>

Or call Fr. Paul at the church office, (732) 350-2121



Wednesday, October 16, 2019 from 8 a.m.– 11 p.m.

Please Purchase \$5.00 shopping passes from Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in Whiting NJ. The entire amount will benefit our church projects.

The day will earn shoppers 25% off purchases and cannot be combined. Valid on October 16, 2019 only!

Any questions? Contact Stefanie Rotsaert @ (732)-350-2904

**Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost** Proper 23

**October 13, 2019**

## **Collect of the Day**

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## **First Reading**

*Book of Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4*

Na'aman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper. Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little maid from the land of Israel, and she waited on Na'aman's wife. She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Sama'ria! He would cure him of his leprosy." And when the king of Israel read the letter, he rent his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me." But when Eli'sha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, "Why have you rent your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel." So Na'aman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the door of Eli'sha's house. And Eli'sha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." But Na'aman was angry, and went away, saying, "Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and cure the leper. Are not Aba'na and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage. But his servants came near and said to him, "My father, if the prophet had commanded you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much rather, then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?" So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean. Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him; and he said, "Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel.

## Psalm 111

- 1 Hallelujah!  
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, \*  
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.
- 2 Great are the deeds of the LORD! \*  
they are studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 His work is full of majesty and splendor, \*  
and his righteousness endures for ever.
- 4 He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; \*  
the LORD is gracious and full of compassion.
- 5 He gives food to those who fear him; \*  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.
- 6 He has shown his people the power of his works \*  
in giving them the lands of the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; \*  
all his commandments are sure.
- 8 They stand fast for ever and ever, \*  
because they are done in truth and equity.
- 9 He sent redemption to his people;  
he commanded his covenant for ever; \*  
holy and awesome is his Name.
- 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; \*  
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;  
his praise endures for ever.



### **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 Fall/Winter** 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 **URGENT** call out for Lay Eucharistic Ministers for both our 8:00 and 10:00a.m. services.



**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.



**CARE GIVERS VOLUNTEERS** JoAnn Smithson is the Congregational Coordinator for Care Givers Volunteers here at St. Stephen's. Please continue to use the mailbox in the Office to put in your hours. JoAnn's phone number is 732-408-5351.

**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.

## Pasta & More Dinner

Sponsored by the Men's Club and E.C.W.



Saturday October 19

3:00 to 5:00 PM

Donation: \$15.00 each

Appetizers - Salad Bar - Entrees

Dessert - 50/50 - Treasure Auction

Door Prizes

**Call (732) 350-2121 for tickets**

## Crop Walk 2019

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church at 180 Route 539 Whiting New Jersey will host this year's annual event as it enters its 50th year.

Whiting walkers have raised over \$200,000.00 in the 25 years walkers have been in Whiting.

More information will follow as we gather closer to OCTOBER 20th.



## STEWARDSHIP

“Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord”

*Leviticus 27:30*

## Way of Saint Paul

“The steps of a man are from the LORD, and he establishes him in whose way he delights;

*Psalm 37:23*



## *Second Reading*

*Second Letter to Timothy 2:8-15*

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we shall also live with him; if we endure, we shall also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful--for he cannot deny himself. Remind them of this, and charge them before the Lord to avoid disputing about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

## *Holy Gospel*

*Luke 17:11-19*

On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Sama'ria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

## Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

In today's liturgy, the central theme is the inclusive nature of God's call to us. Although Judaism and Christianity have at points in history have been presented as limited and exclusive, the word of God in both Testaments is insistent that God calls all people into the Kingdom.

In today's gospel, the willingness of the Samaritan leper to recognize Christ (excluded from conventional society because of his ethnicity and his affliction), and Jesus' ministry to him, was used by Jesus as a sign of God's favor to all people. Faith is not limited only to a few special people.

The story of Elisha and Naaman is a parallel event to today's Gospel passage. Naaman, also from a foreign and despised people and a leper, is nevertheless healed by the great Hebrew prophet. God's goodness is not only for Jews and Christians but also for all people.

In the reading from 2 Timothy we have instructions to an early church leader concerning the message he is to proclaim and the character of his ministry. Timothy is reminded that God remains faithful to us and that our response is to be faithful to God.

In the Eucharist, we join as the people of God. We are set apart by baptism, not as an exclusive society, but are called to be the Spirit's instruments in calling all people into God's family. We are of every race, class, and heritage, yet we are united in Christ as a priestly people sent out to the entire world.

## Announcements

October 13, 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 Thanksgiving for the 40th Anniversary of Fr. Paul & Priscilla Van Sant*



*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God*

*In Memory of*

*Phillip Gaskill, by his sister Sandy*

### ASSISTED LIVING COMMUNION SERVICES

The Pines

1st Sunday of each month at 9:30 am

Arista-Care

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