



Life and Times

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

367 Route 9, Waretown, NJ
Phone 609-698-8561 | www.SaintStephansWaretown.org

February, 2020



Welcoming Everyone, Connecting with God, Building Community, Transforming Lives

From the Book of Common Prayer. Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

From The Vestry...

eNewsletter. This will be our first newly formatted newsletter which many of you will receive via email. Transitioning to an eNewsletter will cut our postage and paper costs and save on staff time used to prepare and mail paper newsletters. If you are not receiving the eNewsletter, please contact the parish office and provide us with your email address. The eNewsletter is interactive, has extra content and contains links to other news and information which we feel are of interest to the congregation.

Newsletter Editor. Jo Ann Joeriman has volunteered to serve as our newsletter editor. She encourages and asks for newsletter articles. Should you have an article, topic or idea for the newsletter please call Jo Ann at 609-290-9865 or [click here](#) to email her.

Church Leadership. Many thanks to Ray Davis for his service to our church as Senior Warden. We also express our gratitude to Al Friziola who concluded six years of service as a Vestrymember. Jim Joeriman becomes the new Senior Warden and Pattie Meyer has been elected to the Junior Warden position. Also elected to the Vestry are Bob Gray, Deb Kirk and Glenys Baulderstone. To see a list of your Vestry and other church leaders, visit the [leadership page](#) on our [church website](#).

Planning for the Future. With the retirement of Father Terry Martin, the Vestry is working on planning for the future which includes a three-year plan on viability and spiritual leadership at Saint Stephen's. A conversation regarding a possible three-year affiliation with Church of the [Holy Spirit](#) in Tuckerton is underway and involves both Vestry's, the Bishop and the [Diocese of NJ](#) staff. We anticipate the Bishop to hold a joint congregational meeting in the near future. No decisions have been made and we will keep you informed on these discussions through conversation, announcements, meetings, this newsletter and email. Please reach out to any Vestry member in regard to any concern or question you may have. We are using supply priests for our Sunday worship services. The name of our guest priest for any given Sunday can be seen on our [parish calendar](#).

Southern Ocean County Episcopal Fellowship. Saint Stephen's was the host church for the Feast of the [Epiphany](#) which brought together Saint Stephen's in Waretown, [Holy Spirit](#) in Tuckerton, [Holy Innocents](#) in Beach Haven and [St Peter's](#) at the Light together for a joint worship service. There was a large attendance and we look forward to holding future joint services and events in each of the churches.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS—SPRING SCHEDULE

Thrift Outlet Volunteer Meeting: February 25th—2:30pm in the Parish Hall
If you know of someone that may be interested in [volunteering](#), bring them along to our meeting .

1/2 Price Sale starting week of March 9th.

\$5 Bag Sale starting week of March 16th.

Closed on Monday March 23rd through Wednesday March 25th for Spring changeover.

Re-Open with Spring items on Thursday, March 26th.

We are always in need of volunteers, whether for an hour or a day.



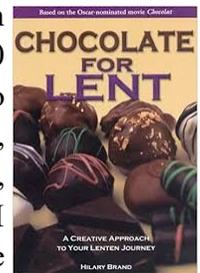
OUTREACH PROGRAM

We are making lap covers for nursing homes. If you have any extra yarn or know of anyone who would like to donate yarn it would be greatly appreciated. We are also looking for a place to purchase discount yarn for this worthy cause. Donations can be left at the Parish Office. [Suggestions](#) please?



Lenten Study & Simple Meal

We will be partnering with Holy Spirit in Tuckerton to offer an enriching 2020 Lenten Program. Using themes from the 2000 Academy Award nominated film “Chocolat”, this unique approach to the season creates the space for deeper insights into self-discipline, self-giving, conversion, acceptance, and maturing in Christ. Delving into the delicious depths of humanity, *Chocolate for Lent* offers a Lenten program like no other. The program starts at 5:30 PM with a simple meal of soup and salad followed by the Lent study from 6:30 until 8:00. We suggest *prior readings*.



The Schedule

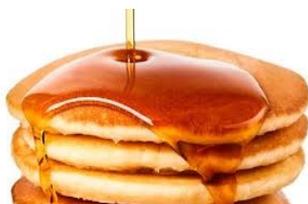
Sunday, February 23rd, 3:00 PM at Holy Spirit —*Optional* preview of the movie “Chocolate”

Wed, March 4th at Holy Spirit—Prelude to Change: *Read Matthew [4:1-11](#), [18-22](#) & [Mark 10:17-27](#)*

Wed, March 11th at St. Stephen’s—Giving Out, The Power of Gift: *Read [Luke 14:1-12](#)*

Wed, March 18th at Holy Spirit—Getting Wise, The Possibility of Change: *Read [Matthew 12:1-21](#)*

Holy Week Schedule. The Vestry is in the process of concluding the schedule of services for [Holy Week](#). As soon as that is complete, we will announce it at worship services and in the Sunday Bulletin. It will be sent via email to those of you who have provided an eMail address.



Pass the Syrup

Shrove Tuesday Fellowship Pancake Supper.

Tuesday from 5:30PM until 7:00 in the Parish Hall

Adults: \$5.00 Children: \$3.00



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME! On Friday, July 10th we will be having our annual Southern BBQ at the [BlueClaws](#). We will be back on the Third Base Line (just opposite the new Biergarten) for a fun evening. The menu includes hamburgers and hot dogs which will be grilled to order while you wait along the salad, coleslaw, macaroni and cheese, chicken, pulled pork, soft drinks and dessert. The cost is the same as last year, \$30.95 for adults and \$21.95 for juniors. Oh, and did I mention that there will be FIREWORKS! Of course, there are fireworks since it wouldn't be the summer at the Jersey Shore and a Friday night baseball game without them. You can contact me on my home phone 609-693-1876, my cell phone 609-709-5724 or via email to pattiemeyer@yahoo.com. You can also catch me after services on Sundays. Looking forward to a fun night! Pattie Meyer

COMMUNICATION *Faithfully From Pattie Meyer*

The dictionary defines “communication as the act of transmitting; a giving or exchanging of information; signals or messages by talk, gestures, writing, etc.; and a system of sending and receiving messages; the art of expressing ideas especially in messages and speech.

Why is communication so important? To put it simply...if we don't appropriately communicate, nothing will be accomplished in a timely and professional manner.

With our Rector's departure, your Vestry has assumed the responsibility of ensuring that St. Stephen's functions in a manner to prevent activities from “falling through the cracks”. We have already laid the groundwork for the Lenten program. There will be a Pancake Supper and our Soup and Salad Dinners followed by a program. It will be the same but will also be different.

So we are also asking that anyone who is responsible for one of our ministries to use all the communication tools that are available to us. This would include cell phones and land lines, e-mail, text messages, flyers, announcements at both church services, and posting meetings and events in the weekly bulletins and the Life and Times.

We all have to ensure that in the “information age” everyone has all the information they need. Your Vestry is always available to answer any questions you may have. We will keep everyone informed. Now it's everyone's turn to keep up that flow of information in our ministries.

We all hear stories of how strangers come together and help in times of need. We have to approach our current situation in the same way.

I pray that if we all work together, we will come through this transition stronger and more vibrant than ever.

From The Parish Treasurer, Ronald H. Turner

2020 Pledges. As your Parish Treasurer for St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, I would like to thank our parish members who made a pledge commitment for 2020. Your faithfulness helps us to meet our expenses throughout the year. It is by your generosity that you have made it possible to help keep our doors open and continue carrying out our ongoing missionary work. I wish to thank our counting teams who handle our Sunday offerings weekly: Ken Baulderstone, Jim Joeriman, Bob Terentz, Joann Don, Ray Davis, Pattie Meyer, Al Frizziola, and myself for their continued work in counting and giving of their time and talent.

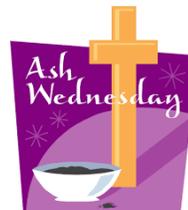
It is never too late to pledge.

Ash Wednesday Services - February 26th

Saint Stephen's, Waretown—Noon, Father Don Muller

Church of the Holy Spirit, Tuckerton 7PM, Father Don Muller

Ashes to Go: Church of the Holy Spirit, Tuckerton 7-8am and 12-1pm





There are always so many people to thank and this month we want to focus on...

Jo Ann Don—Thank you for volunteering to staff our Parish Office on Thursday's & Friday's. **Lynn Murdoch** — We are happy to hear your voice back in our Choir. **Deb Kirk**—Thank you for representing Saint Stephen's at the Pre-[Diocesan Convention](#). **Ray Davis** — Upon completing your term as Senior Warden, thank you for your many years of faithful service. **Al Frizziola**—Al completed six years on the Vestry and is always there to lend a helping hand. The ladies of the **Alter Guild**, their contribution is valued.

About Ash Wednesday. The first of the forty days of Lent, named for the custom of placing blessed ashes on the foreheads of worshippers at Ash Wednesday services. The ashes are a sign of penitence and a reminder of mortality, and may be imposed with the sign of the cross. Ash Wednesday is observed as a fast in the church year of the Episcopal Church. The Ash Wednesday service is one of the Proper Liturgies for Special Days in the BCP (page 264). Imposition of ashes at the Ash Wednesday service is optional.

"Ashes to Go" is a way of taking church to the streets on Ash Wednesday, meeting people in the midst of daily life with a moment of grace. Each year, clergy and congregants throughout the diocese go out to the people to administer ashes at train stations, coffee shops, shopping malls, hospitals, street corners, anywhere busy people are. The Church of the Holy Spirit in Tuckerton will be participating in Ashes to Go from 7-8am and 12-1pm.

Morning Prayer Service. The worship services on Sunday February 23rd will be Morning Prayer. "Morning Prayer once was the chief Sunday service in most Anglican churches on three out of four Sundays, the First Sunday usually being a celebration of Holy Communion. This practice has not continued because the eucharist has been recognized as the "principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day" in most parishes (see [BCP](#) page 13). However, Morning Prayer is clearly designated as a daily service for the worship of the church."

Prayer List. Prayer unites us—to God and with one another. Tom Don has volunteered to serve as our Parish Pray Sheppard. Tom will help to make sure those in need of prayer are included in our Prayers of the People. If you, or a loved one, needs the support that prayer can give, please fill out a Prayer Request Card found in the pews, [email us](#), or call the Parish Office. People will stay on the prayer list for about 30 days and longer if continued prayer is needed. We intend to refresh the prayer list in the coming weeks.



ShopRite Gift Card Fundraiser Supports Our Building and Maintenance.

Please consider donating to the church through purchase of ShopRite Gift Cards. Five percent of your purchase is returned to the church and designated for Church Building and Maintenance. You can purchase cards, cash or check, in the Parish hallway between the 8 and 10 services.

February Parish Calendar & Events

WORSHIP

Holy Eucharist

Sunday, 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, February 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd at 10AM

HEALING SERVICE

Friday's at 10AM

Wardens : [Jim Joeriman](#), [Pattie Meyer](#)

Vestry Members: [Glenys Baulderstone](#), [Peggy Beck](#),
[Tom Don](#), [Debbie Kirk](#), [Jo Ann Joeriman](#), [Bob Gray](#),
[John Marcy](#), [Bob Rawley](#), [Rett Rich](#)

Treasurer: [Ron Turner](#)

Parish Administrator: [Pat Terentz](#)

MINISTRIES & FELLOWSHIP

Thrift Shop Open

Monday through Saturday 10 to 2

To Volunteer Contact [Beth MacKenzie](#), Barbara Heilich or Gloria Davis.

ECW

For Information Contact [Pat Spielman](#)

Bible Study

Wednesday Nights at 7PM Classroom 1

For Information Contact [Marueen O'Keefe](#)

Sunday Seminar—Bible Discussion

Every Sunday starting at 11:30 in the Parish Hall

Facilitated by [Debbie Kirk](#) & Marcel Tabone

Choir Director & Organist

[Carlos Staszkeski](#)

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Annual Parish Meeting



LINKS

[Saint Stephen's Website](#)

[Saint Stephen's Calendar of Events](#)

[Parish Facebook Page](#)

[Thrift Shop Facebook Page](#)

[The Book of Common Prayer](#)