

# Life and Times

## Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

367 Route 9, Waretown, NJ  
Phone 609-698-8561 | [www.SaintStephansWaretown.org](http://www.SaintStephansWaretown.org)

**June, 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...**

**Update on Resumption of In-Person Worship.** The Bishop has appointed a COVID-19 Reentering, Reopening, Reimagining (RRR) Task Force which is chaired by Canon Valerie Balling and Dr. Philip Lewis. The task force is preparing a set of guidelines to help our churches move carefully toward reopening our buildings in stages over the coming weeks and months. The Task Force's initial report is expected by next Friday, June 5.

**Affiliation Update.** On June 13th, the Vestry's of St. Stephen's and Holy Spirit are scheduled for a joint meeting with the Bishop. Of course the current pandemic has stalled discussions and we hope this meeting will start to move us toward a better understanding of what an affiliation with Holy Spirit will look like. We will update you whenever there is something worthy of reporting.

**Our Food Pantry** is open and busy. It operates on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.



**Prayer List.** We are refreshing our payer list. Should someone need to be included, please [email](#) us or contact the church office. Unless renewed, people will stay on the prayer list for a month.

**Please Keep in Your Prayers,** Beth MacKenzie, Becky Smith, Ron Turner, and Dick & Flossie Heward

### **The Right Reverend William H. Stokes presents a video sermon for Pentecost**



*"Pentecost calls us to take another step beyond our personal laments and to be found together in a shared name – child of God. In this relation, Pentecost emerges as human solidarity. We stand together, in the same family, the same name, with and for and (even) as victims of the violence sadly endemic in this broken world."*

## ...GOING FORWARD...*Faithfully By Pattie Meyer*

I often think of one of our parishioners who is no longer with us. June Burdge lived through World War II in England when there was the constant bombing of her beloved England. I wonder what advise she would have given us to survive this period in our world's history.

We all hold deeply rooted hope that one day soon we will be back to our "normal routines". I'm not sure if this is what our old normal routines were or some unknown "new" normal routines. This is far different from those times in our lives when we had to stay home. We either had the chicken pox or our children did, we were sick with the flu or recovering from surgery and even just being stuck inside because there was three feet of snow outside your front door that needed to be shoveled. In any event, there was a reasonably accepted amount of time we would have to wait until we were "Free!"

As your Junior Warden I have been attending weekly on-line meetings hosted by Bishop Stokes which include various Lay Leaders throughout the Diocese. During our most recent meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>, Bishop Stokes announced the formation of a COVID-19 Task Force. The Task Force includes: Reinventing, Reopening and Reimagining which will work on a phased-in plan; Learnings and Breakthroughs will focus on things we have learned on how to reach parishioners throughout the Diocese. Although no firm details were provided, I am quite sure the Task Force will include input from not only religious leaders but also medical experts.

There are many programs that the Diocese has in place to assist parishes and individuals. They include a new youth outreach headed by Lori Bathurst focusing on grades 6-12; Outreach Ministries for homelessness, medical care, summer feeding programs, etc; and a Coaching Network Initiative for church leaders. If you are interested, simply go to the Diocesan website "dioceseofnj.org" for further information.

### June Birthday's

Greg Savoth 4th	Diana Avant 5th	Brian Harrington 6th	Jean Brown 8th
Becky Smith 11th	June Merrifield 12th	Dave Silletti 12th	Aaron Presti 12th
Randy Holak 14th	Deborah Kirk 22nd	William Bodine 22nd	Gloria Boone 23rd
	Judy Phillips 29th	Mary Beth Tallman 30th	

If we have missed your name, please [email us](#) your name and birth date so we can up date our files and include you.



### Bible Study with Bishop Stokes

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

[Register Now](#)



Every week, Bishop Stokes is holding an online Bible study to look at the upcoming week's gospel lesson. Following the study time, the bishop will lead the end-of-day Compline prayer service. The Diocese has also set up a [web page](#) with study materials and readings to look at before the discussion, as well as recordings of previous sessions.

**Please Note:** Due to enhanced security precautions for online meetings, you will need to [register for this event](#) even if you have previously registered for it.



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

There is so much beauty in nature and what better way to glorify our church grounds than with our garden angels putting their hands in the dirt and creating with flowers and plants. Even though we can't congregate, we can still ride by our church and

admire the beautiful beauty and color of the garden areas. See some current pictures on Page 5.

Our food pantry is open from 9am until noon on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to help meet the needs of people in our communities. Bill Wight, Debbie Wight and Paula Provaznik are our food pantry volunteers who are operating this important ministry during this pandemic. Given this difficult time, we recognize the vital contribution they make to help those in need. They are making a difference. Please include them in your prayers.

### June Anniversaries

Maureen & Willie O'Keefe 24th

Bob & Barbara Gray 26th

Kevin & Kristen Waldron 28th

Carlos & Linda Staszkeski 29th

### The Season After Pentecost

The season after [Pentecost](#), according to the calendar of the church year (BCP, p. 32). It begins on the Monday following Pentecost, and continues through most of the summer and autumn. It may include as many as twenty-eight Sundays, depending on the date of Easter. This includes [Trinity Sunday](#) which is the First Sunday after Pentecost. The [Book of Common Prayer](#) (BCP) provides proper [collects](#) and readings for the other Sundays of the season. These [Propers](#) are numbered and designated for use on the Sundays which are closest to specific days in the monthly calendar, whether before or after. For example, Proper 3 is designated for use, if needed, on the Sunday closest to May 25. Proper 29 is designated for use on the Sunday closest to Nov. 23. Prior to the 1979 BCP, Sundays in this long period of the church year were identified and counted in terms of the number of Sundays after Trinity Sunday instead of the number of Sundays after Pentecost. This period is also understood by some as "[ordinary time](#)," a period of the church year not dedicated to a particular season or observance, as in the Roman Rite adapted after Vatican II.

### On-Line Virtual Worship Opportunities

We continue to hold on line 9:30 AM Zoom worship services every Sunday. We have now completed 5 services. Many of you have said how nice it is to see each other's faces and exchange hello's before and after the service.

The Rev. Mantelle Bradley has been our priest and we are very thankful for her service. **Thank you** Mother Bradley.

The link to participate is: <https://bit.ly/2ysEwap>

Watch live or past services on YouTube: [Click Here](#)



## THRIFT SHOP NEWS

Please continue to stay safe as we look forward to the time when we can once again be open for business. We are hoping that our volunteers will return back when the time comes, however, there may be some that are unable to return for personal reasons. If that is the case, we totally understand and support you and ask that, while Beth McKenzie is recuperating, to call Jo Ann Joeriman 609-290-9865 or Pattie Meyer at 609-709-5724 and let us know if you can still volunteer. We appreciate all you do!!



### **We have got to hang in there....** *Faithfully submitted by Jo Ann Joeriman*

Am I alone in experiencing a lot of emotional turmoil in this lockdown? I was doing ok for the first month and thought I was ok for the second month. Now I am not so sure since all the things I thought I would accomplish being stuck at home, mostly have been completed. Now I do more thinking and realizing what I'm missing and honestly, it's really getting to me.

I really miss our church family and the activities that were so enjoyable. Just being able to sit in church would be such a gift and having a cup of coffee after service seems like such a luxury now.

I miss the hard work at the Thrift Shop and the interaction with our co-volunteers and our customers. I must say, it is made me appreciate all the little things that I now see as more meaningful. I realize that the most important aspect of my life is spending time with my family and friends and feeling like I belong to something greater than myself. As someone who is always moving forward, these last few months have really changed how I perceive my life and the things I do to be happy.

I believe that this shutdown is a Universal Reset and hopefully the lessons learned will make me a better person. I wish everyone strength and energy to get through this somewhat darkness and emerge with a greater appreciation for what is meaningful and to never take for granted all that is important.



The former Sunday Seminar, now the Saturday Seminar. The group meets at 11:00 AM on Saturday Mornings using Zoom.

Each week someone in the group says an opening prayer and a different participant selects a Scripture verse or chapter in advance and there is a discussion on the scripture. You are invited to join in.

To receive more information or to obtain the Zoom login information, email Deb Kirk at [Debrus56@gmail.com](mailto:Debrus56@gmail.com) or text her at 609-312-3802. During the week the group also shares prayer requests through group text or email.

### **Available During The Pandemic**

#### **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. Call Gloria Davis at 609-693-4205 or Ron Turner at 609-660-2635 and place an order and we will be outside the church between 10 AM & 11 AM on a designated day.



## Spotlighted This Month.....Dolores DeWitt

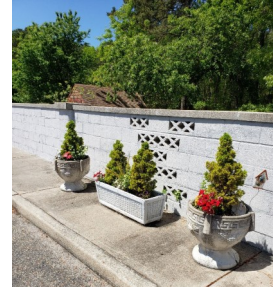


Dolores DeWitt has been a member of our St. Stephens' Episcopal Church for the past 25 years. During that time, she has worn many hats, however they all serve the same purpose....supporting our great congregation. Dolores met her husband John while they both worked at Bel Labs in Holmdel and were eventually transferred to Illinois where they raised their three daughters. They stayed 18 years and moved back to New Jersey 25 years ago now residing in Manahawkin. She is blessed with four grandchildren but, unfortunately, John passed in 2018 and is now in our Memorial Garden.

As to the many hats that Dolores has worn, the E.C.W. has the most longevity of 25 years and she currently serves as V.P. The ECW is very instrumental in so many areas of our church and when you need support for events, gatherings or just get together, the ECW is always ready to lend a hand and provide a festive spread of homemade goodies.

Dolores has also volunteered as a Counter after Sunday service, worked with the Ushers and, by the way, still fills in as a substitute when needed. She works with the Alter Guild making Purification or Altar Cloths for our church services, and in addition, Dolores knits slippers for a Hospice Group and makes purses and pillows for some of our local nursing homes. She was involved with the Quilters and was instrumental in making the quilts that were used in our many Raffles. Oh....and did I mention that she also volunteers at our Thrift Shop. I must add that Dolores is one of the kindest and most positive individuals that we are blessed to have as a member of our Church. **Thank you**, Dolores for all you do!!

## The St. Stephen's Garden Angels Ministry



[Garden Angels on our Website](#)

## LINKS

[Saint Stephen's Website](#)

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

[Parish Facebook Page](#)

[Thrift Shop Facebook Page](#)

[YouTube Channel](#)

[Twitter](#)

## June Parish Calendar & Events

### WORSHIP

Holy Eucharist

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

HEALING SERVICE

**All in-person worship is suspended until such time as the Bishop feels it appropriate to reopen.**

Check our [website](#) for online opportunities

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](#)

Website: [www.SaintStephensWaretown.org](http://www.SaintStephensWaretown.org)

Facebook: [SaintStephensWaretown](#)

### MINISTRIES & FELLOWSHIP

**Thrift Shop Open**

Monday through Saturday Closed during pandemic  
*To Volunteer Contact [Beth MacKenzie](#), [Barbara Heilich](#) or [Gloria Davis](#).*

**ECW**

*For Information Contact [Pat Spielman](#)*

**Bible Study**

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

**Sunday Seminar—Bible Discussion**

Every Saturday starting at 11:00AM on Zoom.  
Facilitated by [Debbie Kirk](#) & Marcel Tabone

**Choir Director & Organist**

[Carlos Staszkeski](#)

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