



Life and Times

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

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



February, 2022

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

Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer:



O Lord our Governor, whose glory is in all the world; We commend this nation to thy merciful care, that, being guided by thy Providence, we may dwell secure in thy peace. Grant to the President of the United States, the Governor of New Jersey and to all in authority, wisdom, love of truth and righteousness, and make them ever mindful of their calling to serve the people in thy fear; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God world without end.

Church Organization. The Vestry has completed the reorganization of our Church Ministries and Committees. Some have been consolidated into subcommittees or ministries while others have had a name change. There are now smaller sub committees which require less volunteer time. The [organization and the names of our volunteers](#) (God bless you) are on our website.

Vestry

Welcoming our new Priests. The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves and the Rev. Lisa Graves will join St. Stephen's and The Church of the Holy Spirit on Palm Sunday. The Vestry is planning a welcoming event for some time shortly after Easter. We need a few volunteers to help plan the welcoming. If interested, please contact Jim Joeriman or Pattie Meyer. [Read their Introduction Letter.](#)

Changes Coming to Sunday Worship. We fully expect to return to 8:00 and 10:00 Sunday Worship Services starting shortly after Easter. We also plan on soon restoring some more of the tradition in our services which were stopped during the pandemic.

Vestry Meeting Day Change. Beginning in April, the Vestry monthly meeting day will change from the 2nd Tuesday in the month to the 3rd Tuesday.

Why Do Episcopal Churches Have Red Doors?



“There are many reasons why church doors are painted red. For many churches, the color red symbolizes the “blood of Christ”, which is the “entry” into salvation for those who enter. Red was painted on the north, south, and east doors of a church making “the sign of the cross” marking the church as a safety zone from spiritual dangers. For others, the red door recalled the sprinkling of the door lintels of the Israelites with the blood of lambs on the night of Passover. Beginning in the Middle Ages, red represented a color that denoted a place of sanctuary which offered physical safety from outside evils. If you were being pursued by someone, you would be safe if you could reach the church door. Pursuers could proceed no further. Furthermore, prior to the reformation, the Church did not have to abide by civil law. Some believe that the red color signifies the tongues of flame of Pentecost implying that the Holy Spirit is within. The red doors

of Episcopal churches once signified that the mortgage had been fully paid. But many sources simply state that “there is really no definitive reason” for this old tradition.”

Written By *Dr. Gil Haas, St. Augustine of Canterbury Episcopal Church*

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday's

Marie Carr, Feb 15th | Jim MacKenzie, Feb 18th | Glenys Baulderstone, Feb 19th | Barbara Julian, Feb 21st
Barbara Heilich, Feb 24th | Floyd Skinner, Feb 24th | Pat Terentz, Feb 27th | Patti Dalon, Mar 1st | Lorraine Issacs, Mar 3rd
Julia Bardzilowski, Mar 3rd | Diane Cleary, Mar 4th | Peggy Beck, Mar 23rd | Mavis O'Rourke, Mar 24th
Lori Fennell, Mar 27th | Norma Turner, Mar 27th

Anniversaries

Lori & Greg Savoth, Feb 4th | Ben & Linda Waldron, Feb 10th | Ken & Glenys Baulderstone, Feb 27th
Floyd & Sheree Skinner, Mar 29th

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



This and That... By Jo Ann Joeriman

Every day changes take place around us that can be unexpected. By example, what we all have experienced in the last two years shows just how drastic those changes can be. The saving grace that we have in common is our place of worship, St. Stephen's Church. As I have mentioned before, our Church family is a special and precious gift that is available for anyone who wants or needs it. If you look around during service, you cannot help but notice how much we have in common with each other. Those of us who have grown children who now have lives of their own may feel that although we were once needed by them, that role has changed, and we are now on the sidelines. That is where our church family comes in. When we get together, either for service or any of our volunteer work, we can feel a connection to each other and experience the second family affect. I have found myself being able to fill in the emptiness at home with the camaraderie of my fellow parishioners and fellow volunteers. I so look forward to another big change coming...and that is the appearance of our new Pastors. They have very different outlooks than what we have been used to so there is a bit of anticipation of those changes. That is going to be a change that will be positive for all of us.

Choir Anyone? If you like to sing, why not join our choir? The church needs new choir members. If you, or should you know of someone who is not a member of the Church, but likes to sing, Please speak with Carlos.



ORDER OF ST. LUKE—Corinne Cromwell

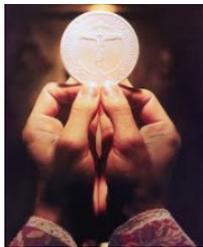
The Order of Saint Luke meets every Friday morning with the leadership of [Corinne Cromwell](#). The Order meets in the Parish Hall on Friday's at 10:00 AM .



Sunday School Update- WE ARE BACK!!!!!! We have resumed classes starting at 9:30. We have so many fun things we do along with studying Bible stories. We are learning about Jesus's life now. We have crafts that coincide with our bible stories. Time permitted we play bingo for prizes. I would encourage anyone with grandchildren, nephews, nieces or neighbors that would like to join us all are welcomed even if it is just for one day. We would love to have them. Now for the 2 exciting details...

We will be having our pretzel Sunday on March 6th I know everyone enjoys eating the pretzels the children make. Also we will be having our Fashion Show with lunch provided on April 24th. Please stay after church to support the children and have lunch with us. It is always such a great event. Again, if you know any children that would like to participate in the event please come. Our categories will be: Lounge wear, sporty, casual and fancy. We hope to see everyone there!!!!!! Please feel free to [email me](#) with questions.

Eucharistic visitation is a special ministry of lay persons called by God and licensed by the Bishop. It is the ministry of taking the Sacrament, consecrated at a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, are unable to be present at the Celebration. Many have been enriched by this sacramental ministry, both those who take the sacrament and those who receive it.



If you, or you know of someone who cannot attend the services at the church and would like to have the Eucharist brought to them, or if you would like to be a part of this extraordinary ministry, please contact the parish office.



Bible Study at St. Stephen's

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Parish Hall, Classroom #1

Sunday In-Person Worship Update. The Sunday Service is live streamed only to YouTube. Visit our [YouTube channel](#) (SSEC Waretown) to watch live or past services. The Order of Service Bulletin can be viewed or downloaded from the home page of our website. Consult our [Church Calendar](#) on our website to see the type of service and who the Celebrant will be. The audio issue has been resolved.



Prayer 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, Becky Smith, Richard Heward, Nancy Sullivan, Linda Staszkeski, Ellen Rich, Ron Turner, Ron Turner Jr., Eileen Hoff, Jon Martin, Paula Provoznak, Liz Luciano & Jim Emery.



KEEPING UP WITH GLORIA!!

If you have ever seen the energizer bunny, take a closer look! She has curly hair and can be seen around the parish hall on a regular basis. That would be Gloria Davis. Between her visits to nursing homes to making items for the handicapped to selling Shop Rite Gift Cards her energy never seems to run out. Each month we will find out what she is up to and as we try to keep up, will let you know what good things have happened! Blessings to you, Gloria!!



Update From The Saint Stephen's Food Pantry

In January 2022, we fed 54 families comprised 119 adults and 54 children. The Food Pantry now has a direct phone number which is 609-312-7041. The Pantry is open from 9am until 11:30 on Monday through Wednesday. Spread the word to those who are in need of this ministry. **We are in need of volunteers (need not be church members) in order to return to the pre-pandemic operations on Thursday & Friday.**



OH NO... SHE'S AT IT AGAIN! By Pattie Meyer

I realize that we are in the grip of Ol' Man Winter and that the cold temperatures are going to be with us for a few more weeks. However, there is also a silver lining to any cloudy and frigid day! Our "silver lining" will come in the form of the Southern BBQ at the Jersey Shore BlueClaws the evening of Friday, July 8th. We once again celebrate the warmth of the summer and an evening of baseball while enjoying a delicious meal. And don't forget...there will be fireworks! The cost of this delightful evening is \$30 per person. If you are interested, please contact Pattie Meyer at 609-891-6814, by email, or at any Sunday service. Hope to see all of you there for a delightful evening



Supporting Saint Stephen's is only a click away. We are now able to offer you the opportunity to give online. It is quick, easy and of course secure. Visit SaintStephensWaretown.org/Donate to make a donation. You can make a one time gift or arrange for secure automatic reoccurring contributions from a bank account, or from a credit/debit card. You are also able to designate your gift toward your Pledge, Building & Maintenance, Organ & Music, the Good Sam House, Sunday School, Memorial Candles, Memorial Altar Flowers, or make a

free-will offering. You are able to place an in memory of when donating.



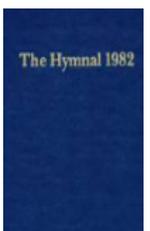
[Staying Focused on Our Common Call](#)

[Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey You Tube Channel](#)

[Saint Stephen's Ministries & Committee Volunteers Posted on Website](#)

[Download Celebrating Ash Wednesday at Home Guide.](#) (From Virginia Theological Seminary)

Praying Through the Hymnal. Are you searching for a new way to engage your prayer life? Then check out the weekly video series, *Praying Through the Hymnal*, hosted by Rev. Amy Cornell. Each Sunday afternoon there will be a new posting that meditates on a particular prayer chosen from The Hymnal 1982. Experience the theology and imagery in a way you may not have experienced before! Check out the past video on [her YouTube channel](#).



The Sunday Seminar Group meets in the Parish Hall immediately following the 9:30 Worship Service. No food or beverage is provided. However you are invited to bring your own.

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 email Deb Kirk at Debrus56@gmail.com or text her at 609-312-3802. During the week the group also shares prayer requests through group text or email.



Spotlighted This Month... *Jo Ann Don*

How many members of our church do we see often but do not truly know them? There are some people that we only see in one light, and we think that is all there is to them. Jo Ann Don is one of those folks who has a way about her that is both authoritarian and a giver.

I have had the opportunity to become friends with Jo Ann over my years at St. Stephens and I have learned that there is so much more to her. When she started volunteering with me at the Thrift Store, I noticed how warm and friendly she is to our patrons who stop by. She always has a kind word for them, especially the children and is constantly helpful in whatever they may need. I noticed how the customers reacted to her warmth and friendly gestures and have noticed how busy our shop has become. When you make people feel good, they come back.

Jo Ann grew up on a dairy farm in Hightstown, NJ. After high school she began working for New Jersey Bell Telephone as a secretary. She then married and had three children which took up a lot of her time. There was always an interest in helping others and after some time she joined the local first aid squad and became an EMT which gave her great personal satisfaction helping those in desperate need. She then became the Squad Secretary for five years and was then elected to the position of the first female line officer in charge of training of the Nottingham First Aid Squad. She was still working at NJ Bell when she met her husband, Tom, and they were married at All Saints Episcopal Church in Bay Head, NJ. While attending church there, she sang with the choir and became a Lecture. After 22 years at NJ Bell, she retired and took a position working with a doctor in internal medicine and worked there for the next 10 years. After then moving to Forked River, she started working for a local doctor and after a few years she retired again. Not being able to sit still, she then started working for Meridian Home Health as a Certified Aid and did this for the next 9 years. As you can see, her career was always helping others.

Jo Ann and Tom joined St. Stephens in 2003 and she immediately joined the choir, became a Lecture, volunteered as a counter on Sunday mornings, and filled in for the Parish Administrator when necessary. At that time, she had volunteered at the Thrift Store and became the Person In charge each Friday and was there for quite some time. After a break from the Shop, she once again is back again now with me on Thursday and sometimes filling in with me on Saturday.

I have learned that there are more sides to Jo Ann than she lets on and I am glad to call her my friend as well as a fellow volunteer. Thank you, Jo Ann for all you do. St. Stephens is truly grateful.

The Way of Love is a way of life.

Practices for a Jesus-Centered Life

More than a program or curriculum, it is an intentional commitment to a set of practices. It's a commitment to follow Jesus: Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest. [Watch the Video](#) from Presiding Bishop Curry. [Visit the web page](#) for many more resources.



ShopRite Gift Card Fundraiser Supports Our Building and Maintenance.

You can buy a gift card for the same amount you spend. Spend \$50 on a gift card and buy \$50 of products. Please consider donating to the church through purchase of ShopRite Gift Cards (cash or check). Five percent of your purchase is returned to the church and designated for Church Building and Maintenance. **Back on sale in the hallway leading the parish hall.** See Gloria Davis.



September Parish Calendar & Events

WORSHIP

Holy Eucharist

Sunday at 9:30

Online: Watch live stream or recorded services on our YouTube Channel: [SSEC Waretown](#).

8:00 and 10:00 Sunday Worship returns in late April.

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

Vestry Members: [Glenys Baulderstone](#), [Peggy Beck](#), [Jan Winne](#), [Debbie Kirk](#), [Jo Ann Joeriman](#), [Bob Gray](#), [John Marcy](#), [Ray Davis](#) and [Nick Morgan](#)

Treasurer: [Ron Turner](#)

Parish Administrator: [Pat Terentz](#)

Website: www.SaintStephensWaretown.org

Facebook: [SaintStephensWaretown](#)

MINISTRIES & FELLOWSHIP

Thrift Shop Open

Monday through Saturday 10am to 2pm.

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

ECW

For Information Contact [Pat Spielman](#)

Bible Study

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

Sunday Seminar—Bible Discussion

Every Sunday in the Parish Hall immediately following the worship service.

Facilitated by [Debbie Kirk](#)

Choir Director & Organist

[Carlos Staszkeski](#)

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