

Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church

Port Washington, New York



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

119th Anniversary of the Parish

Sunday — January 19, 2025

10:00am Hybrid Meeting—In Church & Online via Zoom

2024 CLERGY, VESTRY, DELEGATES & STAFF

Clergy
 The Reverend Lauren T. McLeavey
Rector
 The Reverend Frederic A. Miller
Supply Priest

Vestry

Rachel Golder, <i>Warden</i>	2025
Robin Schroeder, <i>Warden</i>	2025
John Day, <i>Treasurer</i>	
Susan Dietz Massingill, <i>Clerk</i>	2026
Donna Blankman	2025
Elizabeth Predmore	2025
Elionora Silbersack	2025
Abby Chromy	2026
Gail Grossman	2026
Randall Forsyth	2027
Roopali Gupta	2027
John Longmire	2027
Kynan John, <i>Youth Member</i>	2025

Delegates to Convention

Delegate	Robin Schroeder
Youth Delegate	Kynan John

**Consignment Shop
 Advisory Board**

Donna Blankman
Abby Chromy
Susan Dietz Massingill

Parish Staff

Parish Administrator	Bernadette Reyes
Director of Music	Thomas M. Fierro

Parish Staff (continued)

Children & Youth Minister	Rhonda Fay
Consignment Shop Manager	Caren Salkin
Consignment Shop Associates	Susan Snyder Susan Stern
Accountant	Don Cavanaugh

Volunteer Leaders

Fall Fair	Roopali Gupta
Stewardship	Rachel Golder
Buildings & Grounds	Matt Bendix & Lizz Predmore
Communications	Bill Anderson Alan Dinn Roopali Gupta Robin Schroeder Nora Silbersack Jennifer Wilson-Pines
Healing Ministry	Bob O'Brien Dolores Kazanjian O'Brien
Lay Ministry	Alan Dinn & Rachel Golder
Eucharistic Visitors	Robert Chao
Ushers	Jim Massingill
Altar Guild	Gail Grossman
Coffee Hour	Susan Dietz Massingill
Christ's Light	Rosetta Chao
Community	Nora Silbersack
Parish Historian	Alan Dinn
Zoom Meeting Host	Arthur Golder



ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA
Sunday January 19, 2025—10:00am

Prayer	<i>The Rev. Lauren T. McLeavey, Rector</i>	
Opening Remarks	<i>Mo. Lauren McLeavey</i>	
Election of the Vestry		
Report of the Nominating Committee	<i>Robin Schroeder</i>	4
Nominations from the Floor		
Appointment of Tellers & Opening of the Polls		
Business Meeting		
Minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting	<i>Alan Dinn</i>	4
Treasurer's Report	<i>John Day</i>	6
2025 Budget	<i>John Day & Don Cavanaugh</i>	7
Stewardship Report	<i>Rachel Golder</i>	8
Investment Report	<i>Randy Forsyth</i>	9
2024 Parish Register		10
Reports		
St. Stephen's in 2024	<i>Bernadette Reyes</i>	11
Rector	<i>Mo. Lauren McLeavey</i>	16
Wardens	<i>Rachel Golder</i>	17
Buildings & Grounds	<i>Matt Bendix & Lizz Predmore</i>	18
Altar Guild	<i>Gail Grossman</i>	18
Lay Ministry	<i>Rachel Golder</i>	19
Music Ministry	<i>Thomas M. Fierro</i>	19
Spiritual Healing Ministry	<i>Bob O'Brien</i>	20
Annual Diocesan Convention	<i>Robin Schroeder & Kynan John</i>	20
Sunday School & Youth Group	<i>Rhonda Fay</i>	21
Inreach	<i>Nora Silbersack</i>	23
Outreach	<i>Bernadette Reyes</i>	23
Fall Carnival & Bake Sale	<i>Roopali Gupta</i>	24
Consignment Shop	<i>Susan Dietz Massingill</i>	25
Communications	<i>Bernadette Reyes</i>	25
Election Report	<i>Tellers</i>	
Recognition of Retiring Vestry	<i>Donna Blankman & Nora Silbersack</i>	
Blessing & Closing Hymn	<i>Mo. Lauren & Tom Fierro</i>	26 & 27
Dismissal		26
Adjournment		26

ELECTION OF VESTRY

Election of the Vestry

Voting Eligibility Requirements

All persons eighteen years of age or over belonging to the Parish who have been regular attendants at its worships and contributors to its support for at least twelve months prior to such meeting shall be qualified voters thereat, and the presiding officer shall be the judge of their qualifications. Such of them as are present in person shall constitute a quorum.

Warden & Vestry Qualifications

To be eligible to serve as Warden, a nominee must meet the Voting Eligibility Requirements and must be a confirmed member of the Episcopal Church. Those nominated to serve as members of the Vestry must meet the Voting Eligibility Requirements.

Report of the Nominating Committee

The St. Stephen's Nominating Committee, comprised of **Robin Schroeder, Nora Silbersack, Donna Blankman, and Rosetta Chao**, is pleased to announce the nominees for Vestry,

3-year terms:

Leslie Bradshaw
Elizabeth Predmore.

The Committee invites nominations from the floor for the last available Vestry member seat.

For Warden, the Committee also nominates the following individuals to each serve a 1-year term (as stipulated by *New York State Religious Incorporation Law*):

Rachel Golder
Robin Schroeder.

Departing from the Vestry are **Donna Blankman** and **Nora Silbersack**.

We thank all of these parishioners - incumbent, incoming and outgoing - who agreed to serve as our representatives on the Vestry, giving of their time, talent and treasure for the spread of God's kingdom here in Port Washington and beyond.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING—JANUARY 21, 2024

By Alan Dinn, Clerk Emeritus

The 118th Annual Meeting of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Port Washington, NY, was held in person and via Zoom on January 21, 2024, being the Third Sunday after the Epiphany. The Rector, the Rev. Lauren T. McLeavey, declared the meeting and the polls open at 10:00 AM.

Attendance – A record was taken of the attendees and has been placed on file in the Parish Office.

Opening Remarks – Mo. Lauren offered thanks to our Parish Administrator, Bernadette Reyes, for her efforts in preparing the Annual Report and for serving as Zoom host today. She also discussed the church governance of Episcopal parishes and the voting requirements for today's election.

Report of the Nominating Committee – Matt Bendix reported for the Nominating Committee. The committee, consisting of Matt Bendix, Stephanie Anderson, Abby Chromy, Barbara Keller, and Jennifer Wilson-Pines, presented the following names for election to the Vestry:

For Warden (1 year) – Rachel Golder and Robin Schroeder; for Vestry (3 years) – Randy Forsyth, Roopali Gupta, and John Longmire; for Vestry (1 year; unexpired term of Robin Schroeder) – Lizz Predmore

There being no additional nominations from the floor, the nominations were closed. The nominees were elected unanimously.

Mo. Lauren led the congregation in thanking departing Warden Matt Bendix, Vestry members Stephanie Anderson, Barbara Keller, and Jennifer Wilson-Pines, and youth member Milan John.

Annual Report – A printed Annual Report has been prepared, containing reports of parish organizations and committees. The final copy of this report is considered an attachment to the minutes; only additions and comments to the report are provided herein.

Minutes of 2023 Annual Meeting – The minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting are provided on pages 5 and 6 of the Annual Report. The parish approved the minutes of the on motion. Mo. Lauren noted that the Clerk of the Vestry, Alan Dinn, was serving at his last Annual Meeting after more than 28 years in the position. The attendees joined in applause for his service.

Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer's Report is provided on page 7 of the Annual Report. John Day added that our continuing operating deficits and major capital expenses cannot be sustained in the future. We need to consider how to operate within our means and have a plan in place to transition to a new St. Stephen's; otherwise, with no evident additional income sources it is inevitable that we will run out of money in 3-5 years. The Treasurer's Report was approved on motion.

2024 Operating Budget – The operating budget for CY 2024, approved by the Vestry at the December 2023 meeting, is provided on page 8 of the Annual Report. It shows a projected deficit of \$105,025.

Stewardship – The Stewardship Report is provided on page 9 of the Annual Report.

Investments – The Investment Report is provided on page 10 of the Annual Report. Jim Massingill added that the fund allocations should reflect that none of the investments are in equities.

Parish Register – The Parish Register is provided on page 11 of the Annual Report. The attendance for Other: Stations of the Cross in 2023 should reflect 4/0.

St. Stephen's in 2023 – The history of our parish for the past year is provided on pages 12-16 of the Annual Report.

Rector's Report – The Rector's Report is provided on pages 17 and 18 of the Annual Report.

Priest in Charge *Pro Tem* Report – Fr. Mark Kowalewski's report as our priest in charge *pro tem* during Mo. Lauren's leave is provided on pages 18-20 of the Annual Report.

Wardens' Report – The Wardens' Report is provided on pages 20 and 21 of the Annual Report.

Buildings & Grounds – The B&G Report is provided on pages 21 and 22 of the Annual Report. Matt Bendix added that the Parish House boiler replacement cost was \$86K and the door project will cost about \$110K. In discussion about consignment shop security, it was noted that the event was a burglary, not a robbery.

Matt also added that we are in discussion with the Children's Center about converting the former sexton's apartment into office space for the Center.

Altar Guild – The Altar Guild Report is provided on page 22 of the Annual Report.

Lay Ministry Team – The Lay Ministry Report is provided on page 23 of the Annual Report.

Music Ministry – The Music Ministry Report is provided on pages 23 and 24 of the Annual Report. Tom Fierro added that he is aware that the music program is a cost driver and that he is working to contain costs while still providing the quality music we love.

Spiritual Healing Ministry – The healing ministry (see page 24) has been suspended indefinitely.

Diocesan Convention – Reports on the 2023 Diocesan Convention are provided on pages 25 (adult delegate) and 26 (youth delegate) of the Annual Report.

Sunday School and Youth Group – The Sunday School and Youth Group Report is provided on pages 26 and 27 of the Annual Report.

Inreach – The Inreach Report is provided on page 28 of the Annual Report.

Outreach – The Outreach Report is provided on pages 29 and 30 of the Annual Report.

Fall Carnival & Bake Sale – The Carnival and Bake Sale Report is provided on pages 30 and 31 of the Annual Report. Roopali Gupta noted that the event has been tentatively scheduled for October 26th to avoid a conflict with the General Election voting in the Parish House on November 5th.

Consignment Shop – The Consignment Shop Report is provided on page 31 of the Annual Report. The shop's contribution to the church was about \$14,000; lower this year because of decreased volunteer hours and increased cost of paid staff.

Communications – The Communications Report is provided on pages 32 and 33 of the Annual Report.

Closing – All sang a final hymn, "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place." The meeting was adjourned on motion at 11:51 AM.

TREASURER'S REPORT **by John Day**

St Stephen's financial results for 2024, and the budget for 2025 approved by the vestry are set out in the table on the following page.

2024 results commentary

Income and expenditure, in 2024, were balanced: we broke even, and this was a significantly better result than the \$105,000 deficit that we had budgeted for the year.

The reason for the improved performance, compared to budget, was better income: we exceeded budgeted income by some \$110,000 – parishioners were very generous with gifts to the church, especially in support of our music, with substantial giving in memory of Mark Van Schenkhof and Robb Knapp; a substantial \$15,000 transfer in support of the church's musical activities was also made from the Rex Chao Music fund.

Expenses were, overall, close to budget.

It is a result to celebrate, and a very big thank-you to the parishioners who contributed so generously to make it happen.

There were two noteworthy events during the year, which will have an impact on our future finances.

St Stephen's was able to:

1. Negotiate a new lease for the parish hall, to the Children's Center, who will not only pay us more rent, but also assume more responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the building.
2. Sell 14 Carlton Avenue, our house across the street, with proceeds of approximately \$1 million substantially adding to our bank balances and investment funds: these, respectively, stood at \$180k (bank) and \$1.3million (brokerage) at the end of 2024 and we expect to generate substantially more income from our investments, than we have in the past.

2025 Budget Commentary

For the first time in many years, a balanced 2025 budget was prepared and approved by the vestry. Aggregate budgeted income (without expecting abnormally generous giving), and budgeted expenditure, are the same.

This budget takes into account the improved deal we have been negotiating with the Children's Center and also increased investment income from our enlarged investment funds.

Thank-you very much to Gail Grossman and her team of counters who count and log our contributions; to Bob Chao for banking our revenues; to Jim Massingill and Randy Forsyth for looking after our investments; and to Don Cavanaugh who adds it all up. We are very fortunate to have a fantastic financial team at St Stephen's.



St. Stephen's Result 2024 & Budget 2025

(Budget for 2025 approved at 12/18/24 vestry meeting)

Operating fund

	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	2025 Budget
Income					
Pledge	239,334	184,599	170,000	200,787	180,000
Unpledged envelope	35,209	21,432	30,000	20,422	17,000
Contributions and income against active outreach	25	4,075	1,000	3,750	1,000
Plate	1,838	3,234	3,000	3,529	3,900
Rentals	87,222	122,635	120,000	99,723	75,000
Parish Hall & St Cecilia	59,705	86,916	80,000	135,247	163,000
Fundraising - mainly consignment shop / Fair	57,904	53,244	55,000	61,185	60,000
Investment used for operations	30,896	3,665	5,000	15,000	56,000
PPP Grant / Cares Credit (Federal Covid Relief)	36,804	-	-	-	-
Designated contributions	18,374	23,178	19,000	53,481	20,000
Bequest	100,000	-	-	-	-
Total Income	667,310	502,978	483,000	593,124	575,900

Expense					
Clergy remuneration - inclusive of medical, pensions etc.	128,581	129,496	139,825	141,170	147,500
Supply clergy/ deacon expenses	1,076	3,174	2,000	1,002	1,500
Musical remuneration	60,565	63,968	60,000	58,960	55,000
Administrative and custodial remuneration	34,754	40,298	34,000	27,104	28,000
Consignment shop remuneration/ other	31,130	36,997	32,000	40,272	41,000
Staff 'on costs' - FICA and workmen's comp	11,135	11,812	13,000	10,516	11,000
Rector/lay training and dev. - events subs. books	395	1,105	1,500	1,156	2,000
Rector discretionary	5,842	500	500	1,480	500
Worship and music supplies	11,972	6,827	6,500	7,296	7,000
Diocesan Tithe	38,562	36,943	30,000	30,000	25,000
<u>Committee budgets</u>					
Outreach	3,510	5,544	1,000	5,337	1,000
Communications	1,033	795	1,000	637	1,000
Christian Formation	2,400	2,725	2,000	705	1,500
- Staff	12,560	14,531	13,600	13,550	13,500
Welcoming & Connecting (Food & Bev)	1,149	1,479	1,000	881	1,000
Altar flowers - altar guild expense	5,843	4,204	5,000	6,278	5,500
Stewardship	120	120	500		500
<u>Office expenses</u>					
Machine rental & office supplies	6,892	7,583	6,000	6,253	5,800
Telecoms	6,075	4,641	7,000	5,864	6,000
Postage	1,211	891	1,600	942	1,200
Printing	5,326	2,824	1,500	2,736	3,200
<u>Buildings and Grounds</u>					
Repair & Maint	21,387	30,711	15,500	14,326	15,500
Equipment Purchase	465	830	500		500
Equipment Repair & Maintenance	1,765	5,937	4,000	4,982	4,000
Cleaning Service	25,821	41,800	41,400	42,160	43,000
Contracts	9,326	6,386	8,000	4,374	5,000
Housekeeping supplies	5,465	6,178	5,000	4,944	5,000
Water, Electric & Gas	39,183	35,710	40,000	39,671	38,000
Grounds Maintenance	10,215	18,274	12,000	14,203	13,000
Inspections/Permits/Fees	1,957	90	2,000	1,054	2,000
Real Estate Taxes	39,269	39,835	40,000	39,342	20,000
Insurance (general risk)	33,949	38,353	35,000	46,124	48,000
<u>Professional</u>					
Annual Audit & Closing	5,500	5,800	5,500	6,250	6,600
Accounting Services - Monthly	8,367	8,433	9,000	8,165	8,500
Payroll & Employee Tax Filing	1,283	1,592	1,500	1,370	1,500
IT consulting	2,586	986	3,500	2,464	3,000
Bank fees and sundry	1,899	1,589	5,000	2,871	3,000
Miscellaneous	-	1,047	600		600
Total Expenses	578,569	620,009	588,025	594,439	575,900
Operating surplus/deficit	88,741	(117,031)	(105,025)	(1,315)	-

Capital fund

Contributions - Capital Campaign	61,138	11,951	10,000	32,750	10,000
Capital Improvements	(93,731)	(138,620)	(10,000)	(26,327)	(10,000)
Subtotal	(32,593)	(126,669)	-	6,423	-
<u>Columbarium Fund</u>					
Funding - Loan form Reserve Fund (Payment)	(2,500)	(12,000)			
Purchase of Columbarium					
Sale of Columbarium niches	2,500	12,000			
Net Income	56,148	(243,700)	(105,025)	5,108	-

Capital fund account - running total

Carryover - Prior Years	79,571	46,978	(79,691)	(79,691)	(73,268)
Contributions - Capital Campaign	61,138	11,951	10,000	32,750	10,000
Capital Improvements	(93,731)	(138,620)	(13,000)	(26,327)	(10,000)
Subtotal	(32,593)	(126,669)	(3,000)	6,423	-
Carry forward	46,978	(79,691)	(82,691)	(73,268)	(73,268)

STEWARDSHIP REPORT
by Rachel Golder, *Stewardship Chair*

On behalf of Mo. Lauren, the Wardens & the Vestry I would like to thank all the Parishioners who contributed their time, talent and treasure to maintaining St. Stephen's – its worship, in/outreach, facilities and operations - in 2024.

Financially, 2024 was a good year for pledging and giving and we exceeded both our budget and 2023's outcome for pledged and unpledged income. Thank you! We still have an outstanding generous bequest we hope for but whose timing we can't anticipate. I must emphasize how vital bequests have been to us in the recent past, and encourage you all to consider St. Stephen's in your estate planning.

The 2025 pledge campaign is not complete but we expect to have a similar outcome to 2024. So far we have received 33 pledges totaling \$147k, compared to a full-year total of 47 / \$175k in 2024. Many of the pledges have been increased compared to 2024. A very bright note is that so far we have received several generous capital pledges, totaling \$62k! This is a good sign of our Congregation's commitment to improving our beautiful campus.

A more sobering perspective is that the trend in number of pledgers continues to be downward; and, where parishioner donations used to represent almost half of the income for the church, it is now about a third of the church's income (with rent and investment income making up most of the balance). It remains incumbent on each of us to share the word of the opportunity to serve Christ in community at St. Stephen's with our friends and neighbors, to grow our ranks of worshipers and Christ-followers!

I particularly thank those who give of their time and talent. Mo. Lauren has said that a Church with funding but no one coming together in mission and ministry is not a church that can thrive. I think we have a wonderful group of people who are willing to roll up their sleeves, whether it is to prepare the weekly services, teach Sunday school, bake, prepare dishes for a potluck, or "green" the Church. However, those parishioners may not have the bandwidth to continue to do our bigger projects – the Rummage Sale and the Carnival – if we do not get some fresh commitment to both participation and leadership. The Consignment Shop also needs more Parishioner energy to help it thrive (thanks to Susan and her small band of volunteers!). It may be that new and different ministries may better inspire and attract participants to our activities; this will be an ongoing theme of the Vestry's discussion this year, so please bring your ideas forward (especially if you are prepared to lead them!).

It is in giving that we receive. We open ourselves to God's grace through radical generosity.

Thank you again, and please keep pledging!

Yours in Christ,

Rachel Golder
together with Lizz Predmore,
Robin Schroeder & Mo Lauren McLeavey
The Stewardship Team

INVESTMENT REPORT
by **Randy Forsyth, Investment Committee Chair**

The St. Stephen’s investment portfolio generated returns over 15% in 2025 without taking risk in the stock market. We concentrated on investments in corporate credit, mainly funds that invest in high-yield loans to small-to-medium-sized businesses. These funds performed very well with low losses on the loans they held. In addition, we bought the funds at significant discounts from the underlying values of their net assets; the funds’ prices rose as their discounts narrowed.

In December, much of the proceeds from our property sale were added to the main investment fund. During the year, there were also \$40,000 of transfers from the investment funds to the operating account to cover expenses. The changes for the portfolios were as follows:

Fund	Yr-end 2024	Yr-end 2023	Net Add
Morgan Music	\$23,164.00	\$21,824.00	\$0.00
Designated Fund	\$48,875.00	\$44,478.00	\$0.00
Chao Music	\$55,239.00	\$63,491.00	-\$15,000.00
Endowment Fund	\$37,041.00	\$33,186.00	\$0.00
Corporate Fund	\$1,151,421.00	\$223,928.00	\$882,500.00 (a)
Total	\$1,315,740.00	\$386,907.00	\$867,500.00
Total Change	\$928,833.00		
Change Investments	\$61,333.00		

(a) Represents deposits of \$900,000 and \$7,500, and a withdrawal of \$25,000

For 2025, I do not expect a repeat of the positive results of 2024. Unlike last year, risks now far exceed potential returns. We are stewards of these assets. A so-called normal correction in the markets of 10% would result in a triple-digit dollar loss.

To protect against this, almost all of the portfolios have been moved into low-cost funds that invest exclusively in risk-free short-term U.S. Treasury securities. The yield is much lower, only about 4.25%, which means the investment return for this year may be only about two-thirds of last year’s. If better opportunities become available later, we may move a portion of the funds back into riskier investments. Until then, we will follow Will Rogers’ philosophy to emphasize return of capital over return *on* capital.

2024 PARISH REGISTER

	2024	2023	2022		
	In-Person/ Online	In-Person/ Online	In-Person/ Online		
Sunday Services	106/58	106/51	102/53	Baptisms	Nathan Bushey Vincent Jeffrey Misty Sombrotto
Weekday Services	13	5/4	7/7	Confirmation or Receptions	None
Deaths	11	6	3	Marriages	Colette Soloff & Jeffrey Scypinski
Funerals/Burials	11	4	5	Deaths & Funeral/ Burial Services	Gertrude Feuerstein Linda Jordan Dolores Kazanjian O'Brien Robert P. Knapp III Robert Pohl Mark van Schenkhof Fr. Kurt von Roeschlaub Joan Mary Weber Wendy Wegner Barbara Wennberg June Wood
Baptisms	3	1	4		
Marriages	1	0	2		
Average Sunday Attendance	55/10	51/11	49/12		
Other: Stations of the Cross	0	1	0		
Home Communion	65	147	102		
Easter Sunday	137/21	119/14	122/37		
Sunday School Enrollment	17	16	21		
Daily Office on Sundays	0	2/1	4/2		
Daily Office on Weekdays	3	0/30	0/39		
Confirmations	0	0	2	Transfers	<i>Into:</i> 0 <i>Out of:</i> 1
Reception in to the Church	0	0	1		

2024 Use of Facilities

Church

Adult Formation
Blessing of the Animals
Choir
Coffee Hour
Consignment Shop
Fall Children's Carnival
Parish Caroling & Potluck Dinner
"Shrove Sunday" Pancake Brunch
Sunday School
Sunday School Car Wash Fundraiser
Super Bowl Lunch & Fundraiser

Outside

Alcoholics Anonymous—Sound Serenity
CBS Studios (*Elsbeth series*)
Gilbert & Sullivan Light Opera Company of LI
Girl Scouts of Port Washington
Grupo Serenidad—Spanish AA
Metropolitan Youth Orchestra
Nassau County Board of Elections
Nassau Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous
Play Troupe of Port Washington
Port Summer Show
Port Washington Children's Center
Port Washington Senior Center—EAC
Winter Solstice Meditation & Sound Bath

ST. STEPHEN'S IN 2024 by Bernadette Reyes

JANUARY

CHRISTMAS

January 1st: Mark van Schenkhof died peacefully at home after a 6-year battle with a rare form of ALS. Mark was our minister of music from September 2000 to September 2021.



EPIPHANY

January 7th after the 10am service: the church was “de-greened.” The poinsettias were distributed, and all the decorations were stowed until December.

January 7th after the 10am service: the parishioner-led book study group continued with their 1st Sunday of the month discussion of Fr. Mark’s 2019 book *Traveling Home: Tracking Your Way Through the Spiritual Wilderness*, (the first session was held on Sunday, August 6, 2023, and concluded on May 5, 2024).

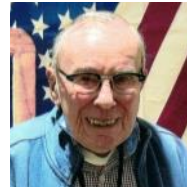
January 12th 2pm-5pm: friends had the opportunity to visit with Mark’s widow, Carol van Schenkhof, in the St. Cecilia Room.

On January 21st: the parish held its annual meeting in person and via Zoom. The parish elected Rachel Golder and Robin Schroeder to one-year terms as Wardens; Randy Forsyth, Roopali Gupta, and John Longmire for 3-year Vestry terms, and Lizz Predmore to complete the last year of Robin Schroeder’s term on the Vestry. An Annual Report was submitted highlighting the activities of the parish for the past year.

FEBRUARY

February 7th & 8th: CBS Studios using Parish Hall as a holding/catering area for crew members who were in town filming an episode of the series “Elsbeth”.

February 10th, 11am: a memorial service took place for Robert (Bob) Pohl, who passed away at the age of 99-1/2 on December 23, 2023. Bob was a longtime faithful member who served on the Vestry 1980-83 and 1987-90, was an Usher, and assisted for many years with maintenance projects on our church campus, often teaming with fellow parishioner George LeSavage as volunteer facilities managers in the 1980s.



February 11th: the Sunday School and Youth Group held their annual *Superbowl Lunch & Bake Sale Fundraiser* during Coffee Hour to raise money for the Lutheran Church of Our Savior’s *Paper & Personal Care Pantry*.

February 11th: the “*Friendly Visitors Program*” was formed by members of the Community & Christ’s Light Committees, to identify and reach out to fellow parishioner who, due to limited community mobility, might appreciate contact from a ‘friendly visitor’ on a weekly, monthly or occasional basis.

February 13th: the Nassau County Board of Elections used the Parish Hall as a polling site for the Special Election to replace former US Representative George Santos’s seat in Congress.

LENT

February 14th (VaLENTine’s Day): two services of Imposition of Ashes with Eucharist, a hybrid service at noon and an in-person service at 7:30pm, were held in the church.

February 18th: due to inclement weather on February 13th, the Sunday School’s traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner was canceled. We celebrated an all you can eat “*Shrove Sunday*” Brunch instead during Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall.

February 19th: a new the “Lenten Soup and Study” series kicked off (after a long hiatus) on Monday nights during Lent in the St. Cecilia Room, led by Mo. Lauren. Each week, participants shared a soup supper starting at 6:30pm, followed by the study portion at 7pm. The discussion centered around Jason Gaboury’s book, “*Wait With Me: Meeting God in Loneliness*”

MARCH

March 3rd, 1pm: a “*Celebration of Life for Mark van Schenkhof*” was held in the fully-packed church. The moving memorial service included music led and performed by many of Mark’s former colleagues and students from Manhasset High School and beyond, along with St. Stephen’s Choir members, old and new. A reception followed in the Parish Hall.

March 9th: Gertrude Feuerstein passed away. Mo. Lauren officiated a small, private service for her on March 13th at Fairchild Sons Funeral Chapel in Manhasset.

March 10th: during the 10am Lent 4 Hybrid Eucharist, the Sunday School & Youth Group read a skit entitled “*In The Wilderness*” at the beginning of the service. It centered around the question, “What would you take camping if you could only take one thing?”

March 16th, 11am: a “*Celebration of New Life in Christ*” for Robert (Rob) Phineas Knapp III took place in the church. Rob passed away on December 2, 2023. He was a longtime member of St. Stephen’s Adult Choir and served several terms on the Vestry.



HOLY WEEK

March 24th: Holy Week began with the Palm Sunday procession from the Parish Hall to the church to start the 10am service. Youth Group members and Sunday School students acted out the *Passion Gospel*, then adjourned to the Parish House to make hot cross buns for coffee hour.

March 18th: June Chapman Wood passed away. She had just turned 100 on March 3rd. Her family members were preparing to gather in Port at the end of the month to celebrate this milestone birthday with her.



March 28th: the Triduum sacrum began with a solemn choral Eucharist at 7:30 PM on Maundy Thursday. Following the Homily, the Liturgy continued with the Washing of the Feet. At the end of the service, Mo. Lauren removed the reserved sacrament to the Altar of Repose (in the Baptistry) where it would remain until Good Friday, and the Altar Guild stripped the Altar while the choir chanted Psalm 22.

March 29th: Mo. Lauren celebrated the Good Friday Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Death, administering communion from the reserved sacrament consecrated on Maundy Thursday. A spoken service was held at noon, and at the 7:30pm Hybrid Eucharist, the choir chanted the *Passion According to St. John*.

EASTER

Holy Saturday, March 30th, 7:30pm: the Easter Great Vigil took place in the church and online, starting off in the dark, and lit only by candlelight. At the Easter Acclamation, the lights came on and the congregation rang bells during the “*Gloria*” to celebrate the Risen Lord Jesus.

Easter Sunday, March 31st: an 8am spoken Eucharist took place in the church. At 10am, a hybrid-format Easter Sunday Festival Eucharist took place in church and online, featuring brass ensemble, organ and the St. Stephen’s Choir. Sadly, the Sunday School’s traditional Easter Egg Hunt was canceled this year.

APRIL

April 2nd: the Nassau County Board of Elections used the Parish Hall as a Primary polling site.

April 2nd, 4:30pm: a funeral service was held for June Wood in the church.

April 21st: the Sunday School & Youth celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up Stannards Brook Park just down the street on Carlton Avenue.

April 28th: the Sunday School & Youth celebrated Earth Day AGAIN by cleaning up Baxter Estates Beach, located along Shore Road.

MAY

May 4th: St. Stephen's embarked on a Mission Action Plan (“MAP”) process, guided by Mother Cecily Broderick as our coach. The first of a series of MAP events was a gathering of parishioners in the St. Cecilia Room to explore and discuss the Presence and Absence of God in their experiences at St. Stephen’s Church through the years. The purpose of the MAP process is to help the parish work towards understanding what God is calling us to be and to do in our community. Through a series of group activities the church would prepare for a visioning session to chart a course of mission and ministry out into the future. Bob and Dolores Kazanian O’Brien crafted this “**Discernment Prayer during the MAP Process**”: *Dear Lord, we pray for our beloved St. Stephen’s. We thank you for our fellowship, our leadership, our rich heritage, our beautiful facilities, and our love for each other. We ask that you guide us. Show us your will for now and for the future. Give us the willingness and strength to follow your teachings and to be of service to each other, to our community and to humankind. May we be a place where all are welcome. May we do everything in our power to preserve this magical world that you have given us. Forgive us when we have failed to follow your words and put material goods and ego ahead of service. Support, protect and guide us during this discernment process and give us the wisdom to know your will and the courage to walk in your way. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

May 5th: the Sunday School and Youth Group celebrated Cinco De Mayo during Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall with its first “*Build Your Own Taco or Nacho Bowl*” along with baked goods, snacks and beverages.

Throughout May: St. Stephen’s once again donated to supported *Summer Together!* – a volunteer-run program that sponsors camp and activity scholarships for families in the Port Washington area who are in need of economic

assistance. \$2,900.00 was raised to fund 1-2 weeks at local day camps for the summer for many children in the area, as well as supported Summer Together's fee-reduction program for income-eligible families at Manorhaven and Whitney Pools.

May 16th: Longtime parishioner, Linda Irene Jordan, passed away just 2 weeks shy of her 79th birthday. She is fondly remembered for the stylish hats she would wear while attending church services and other activities.



May 18th: Mo. Lauren baptized Misty Sombrotto in a private ceremony.

PENTECOST

May 19th: the season of Pentecost began.

May 19th, 1pm: a memorial Service for Linda Jordan was held in the church with a reception that followed in the Parish Hall. Linda's wish was that this celebration of her life be a festive and happy occasion. Her request was for attendees to wear a hat in her honor. At the reception, her family set up several tables with a display of her extensive hat collection. Anyone could borrow for the service and reception, and even take one home.

May 24th: Owen Iwanciw, grandson of parishioner and Altar Guild member Chris Fink, completed his Eagle Scout Project by creating a new meditation/reflection area in the Wemple Garden located on the side of the church just outside of the cloister. Mo. Lauren has purchased a small serenity fountain that will be placed on the other side of the pathway.



May 26th, 10am Eucharist: marked the last Sunday for the choir for the Summer.

JUNE

June-August: Music Director, Tom Fierro took hymn requests throughout the summer. Tom worked the requested hymns into the summer worship services.

June 9th: during the 10am service, a cross was presented to Milan John in honor of his service as an acolyte and crucifer.



June 16th, 10am Family Service: we celebrated the end of Sunday School and honored teachers Rhonda Fay, Gareth John, Susan Massingill, Marcie Passley and Jennifer Wilson Pines. We also celebrated the graduates from the parish, elementary school through college – Nate Bushey, Nicholas Fay, Barnaby Griffin, Milan John, and Jordan Peiser. After the service, the Sunday School celebrated the end-of-the year in the Parish Hall with “build your own ice cream sundaes” and other activities.

June 16th at Coffee Hour: we held a farewell celebration in the Parish Hall for longtime members Alan & Sue Dinn, who were preparing to move to Pennsylvania. Town of N. Hempstead Councilwoman Mariann Dalimonte presented them with a Proclamation recognizing their many years of service to St. Stephen's. Alan Dinn, served St. Stephen's in many capacities, but most notably as Clerk of the Vestry, a Eucharistic Minister, Lay Ministry Coordinator, the Parish Historian, and also helped on the Altar Guild. Sue served as an Altar Guild member for many years, manned the Plant Sale table (along with Alan) at the Fall Fairs, worked as dinner coordinator for the Antiques Show. Both Alan and Sue revitalized and maintained the cloister garden. During the farewell celebration, they were shown a proof of the dedication plaque the church would be installing over the garden in honor of the many years of loving care and attention.



June 15th: Mo. Lauren and several parishioners marched in the annual Pride Walk.

June 22nd: the church embarked on a Prayer Walk, the second group activity in the MAP discernment process. Mo Broderick led a handful of parishioners as they walked (in 2 small teams) through different segments of the community, observing people, their activities, our commercial and retail offerings, and our thoughts about the town of Port Washington and its needs. They took walked for about 40 minutes, and then came together in the St. Cecilia Room to share their observations.

June 25th: the Nassau County Board of Elections used the Parish Hall again as a Primary polling site.

JULY

July 1st: Children's Center new lease went into effect. The lease expanded PWCC's weekday operations at St. Stephen's from just the lower level of the Parish House, to also include Rooms 106, 201 (Nursery), 202, 203, 206 (aka

Quilt Room), the Art Room and Music Room, the Parish Hall and Kitchen, the former Facility Manager's office, and 15 Carlton Ave (former Sexton's apartment).

July 18th: Barbara Burke Wennberg passed away. She had been a resident of The Grand Rehabilitation and Nursing at Great Neck for a number of years prior.

July 26th, 10am: a funeral service was held in the church for Barbara Wennberg.

July 27th, 10am-3pm: we had a *Rummage & Bake Sale* in the Parish Hall, organized by The St. Stephen's Fundraising Committee.

AUGUST

August 15th, 8am & 10am services: The Rev. Frederic A. Miller served as Supply Priest while Mo. Lauren was on vacation.

SEPTEMBER

September 1st, 8am & 10am services: The Rev. Frederic A. Miller again served as Supply Priest.

September 1st: Dolores Kazanjian O'Brien passed away. Dolores was an active and vibrant member of St. Stephen's for more than 30 years. She, as well as her husband Bob O'Brien, were ordained members of the Order of St. Luke, a healing ministry that has a long history with the Episcopal Church. Dolores and Bob offered hands-on spiritual healing at St. Stephen's for many years during the Wednesday noonday and the Sunday 10am Eucharistic services. Dolores was also a longtime member of our church choir, served on the Lay Ministry as a lector, and ran the annual blood drive at St. Stephen's along with Bob.



September 5th, 10am: a funeral service for Dolores Kazanjian O'Brien was held in the church.

September 8th, 10am: Sunday School & Youth Group started. They kicked off the 2024-25 school year with a Potluck Picnic/BBQ in the Courtyard during Coffee Hour.

September 11th: on this, the 23rd anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 9/11/01, the church was open all day for personal prayer, and Mo. Lauren led a healing service at noon.

September 15th, during the 10am service: the Choir returned and Mo. Lauren blessed the backpacks and school supplies that had been collected to help families supported by *LI Cares*. After the 10am service, in the St. Cecilia Room, Mo. Lauren started a new Fall Bible Study series exploring the Book of Acts.

OCTOBER

October 1st: Two new cast bronze dedication plaques. The first one was hung over the garden in the Church's cloister, dedicated to longtime parishioners, Sue and Alan Dinn, in gratitude for their "green thumbs" and the tender care they gave to the plants in this space (many of which they donated). The second was hung in the archway in the front of the Church, on a wall to the right of the lectern. The "choir" (i.e., the area just past the arch and rood screen which is occupied by the singers and the organ) was dedicated in loving memory of Mark van Schenkhoef, who served as St. Stephen's Minister of Music for 21 years. The plaque includes the opening notes of Mark's favorite hymn, "*My Song is Love Unknown*".



October 1st: a survey was emailed to the parish to gauge people's preferences for the configuration of the liturgical space in the front of the church. Over the summer, Mo. Lauren experimented with a different placement of the altar. A portable altar was placed closer to the congregation, just beyond the rood screen. Furthermore, in recent years, parishioners had the opportunity to receive Holy Communion – 1) down the center aisle on the floor just in front of the stairs leading up to the choir, and 2) kneeling at the altar rail. The majority of respondents to the survey voted to keep the altar in its original position, and to receive communion at the altar rail.



October 6th: Wardens, Rachel Golder and Robin Schroeder, presented Mo. Lauren with a lovely bouquet of flowers from the parish during Announcements at the 10am service to commemorate Mo. Lauren's 5 year Anniversary as Rector of St. Stephen's. Then at 2pm, the parish held its annual *Blessing of the Pets* in honor of St. Francis of Assisi in the courtyard. Mo. Lauren blessed 14 dogs and 1 cat.



October 9th, 7:30pm-9pm: we held a *Community Panel Meeting* over Zoom as part of St. Stephen's MAP process. Several community leaders were invited to participate on the panel to discuss their work in the community, and to see what they felt is needed in Port

Washington, in order to better discern how St. Stephen's might be of service to our neighbors. The panel included: Steve Edelson, owner of Smusht; Lisa Bridge, Executive Director of Port Washington Children's Center; Sr. Kathy Sommerville of Our Lady of Fatima RC Church; and Keith Klang, Director of PW Public Library.

October 13th, after the 10am service: Robin Schroeder coordinated a *Fall Grounds Clean Up Day*.

October 19th: Mo. Lauren officiated the wedding of Colette Soloff and Jeff Scypinski. The ceremony took place in The Hempstead House at Sands Point Preserve.

October 20th: Vincent Penn Jeffrey was baptized during the 10am service.

October 21st: The Rev. W. Kurt von Roeschlaub (Fr. Kurt) passed away after a years long battle with cancer. Fr. Kurt served as Rector of St. Stephen's from 1980-2010, and was appointed Rector Emeritus in 2016.



October 26th, 10am-3pm: our annual *Fall Carnival and Bake Sale* took place in the Parish Hall and in the Courtyard.

NOVEMBER

November 2nd, 10am: a memorial service for Joan Mary Weber took place in the church.

November 2nd, 2pm: we held a memorial service for our Rector Emeritus, The Rev. W. Kurt von Roeschlaub in the church; a reception followed at the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club.

November 3rd: the Sunday School performed a skit called "*Stone Soup*" in place of the traditional "*Parade of Saints*" at the beginning of the 10am All Saints Family Service.

November 5th: General Election polling took place in Parish Hall hosted by the Nassau County Board of Elections.

November 15th-November 16th: Mo. Lauren, Robin Schroeder, and youth delegate Kynan John attended the 158th Convention of the Diocese of Long Island at the Melville Marriott.

November 1-November 17: The Sunday School and Youth Group collected Stop & Shop gift cards Our Lady of Fatima's annual Thanksgiving Food Drive, to be distributed to local families in need.

November 17th: during the 10am service, we celebrated *Commitment Sunday* at which Mo. Lauren blessed the 2025 pledges that had been submitted so far. Nathan Bushey was also baptized during the service.

November 24th, 10am: Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at St. Peter of Alcantara RC Church.

November 30th, 10am: volunteers gathered on this Saturday to "green" the church in preparation for Advent and Christmas.

DECEMBER

ADVENT

December 1st: the season of Advent began.

Throughout December: we participated in Our Lady of Fatima's "*Adopt-a-Family*" program once again. The Sunday School collected gift cards up until December 15th, which were then provided to our adopted family #80 for Christmas.

December 7th: we held another *Parish Potluck Dinner and Caroling Party* in the Parish Hall. Prior to the 6pm party, a group, coordinated by Rachel Golder, visited some of our homebound members and sang carols for them. Thanks to Susan Dietz Massingill for the dinner arrangements, to Rachel who also led caroling during the party, while accompanying on piano, and all who worked to make the evening a success.

December 9th: we closed on the sale of our single-family residential rental property located at 14 Carlton Avenue. The bulk of the proceeds from the house sale are being invested, overseen by our Investment Committee.

December 15th, 10am: we held a "*Lessons & Carols*" service in place of our usual Advent 3 Eucharist. Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song dating back to the late 19th century. Readings are followed by congregational carols, or anthems sung by the choir or soloists, providing an opportunity to gather as a community and reflect on the joyous message of Christmas.

December 15th, 2pm: Gilbert & Sullivan Light Opera Company of LI presented "*A Gilbert and Sullivan Christmas Carol*" in the church.

Mid-December: St. Stephen's MAP Discernment process was put on hold until further notice.



December 22nd: after the 10am service, the Sunday School and Youth Group performed their annual *Christmas Pageant* in the Parish Hall during Coffee Hour.

December 22nd, 6pm: we hosted a free *Winter Solstice Meditation and Sound Bath* event. The meditation was facilitated by Rev. Dr. Hildur Palsdottir, who is an interfaith minister and co-founder of Sol Center guides nature based meditation at The Mindful Connection of Long Island and Sands Point Preserve. Sound Bath was provided by Iris Eplan, LMSW, a psychotherapist who integrates traditional therapy with sound healing as a therapeutic approach that uses sound vibrations to promote relaxation, balance, and healing. She also leads heart opening journeys to India.

CHRISTMAS

December 24th: the parish celebrated Christmas with two Eucharists (5pm and 8:45pm) on Christmas Eve. The 5pm Eucharist was a family service that featured the *Miracle of Christmas Orchestra*, led by Rachel Golder. The 8:45pm Festival Mass featured organ, string quartet and our wonderful St. Stephen's Choir.

December 25th: we held a 10am spoken Eucharist on Christmas Day.



RECTOR'S REPORT by The Rev. Lauren T. McLeavey

Dear Friends in Christ,

In preparation for this report, I read through my report from last year, and wow, what a difference a year makes, but also things stay the same. I loved reviving the Lenten Soup and Study program as well as the Sunday Bible Study with our study of the Book of Acts.

We had so many great events in 2024. The Rummage Sale was in the Summer, the Kid's Carnival and Bake Sale was a great success this year, thanks to all of you who helped. The Consignment shop is doing great. We also had a wonderful Christmas Caroling party. Our team of Eucharistic Visitors made so many visits to our homebound parishioners and neighbors! This is wonderful! All of these events were so much fun, and I am sure that I am forgetting many things.



The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to share and celebrate the year that has passed and look forward to the year ahead. Most of the stress around these meetings centers on the budget and membership statistics. Something I have learned in my years of church service is that when the church is focused on mission, the budget and membership will grow stronger as a result. It is a cycle. When a church focuses on their missional identity, it goes out into the world and makes itself known, then people become interested and will join. Then the membership is stronger, and the circle continues. I was looking over our numbers from 2023, we have had an increase in attendance and participation. That is wonderful—thank you all so very much.

The church is not just the priest, but the people. The church is a vehicle by which the members of the Body of Christ can serve the community in the name of God. So, I encourage everyone to think about different missional opportunities St. Stephen's has in our area. What are you interested in? What do you think the area needs? Not every idea will take hold or be "successful," but it doesn't hurt to try new things. St. Stephen's is ready to jump into the future, holding on to our valued traditions, while simultaneously trying new and exciting missions. This is a key to having a church that stands the test of time. We honor our past, while looking forward. We can't dwell on so-called failures or focus on negative events in the past and how things were done in the past. We acknowledge them, learn what we can from them, and then look forward with positive energy.

I end with a prayer that helped me a lot over the last year. When I was feeling particularly bad, this prayer would help me refocus.

***"God alone is enough."* by Teresa of Avila**

*Let nothing upset you,
let nothing startle you.
All things pass;
God does not change.
Patience wins
all it seeks.
Whoever has God
lacks nothing.
God alone is enough.*

Many Blessings be upon you!

WARDENS' REPORT **by Rachel Golder**

Happy New Year to all!

I could fill pages with my Warden's perspective of what's going on at St. Stephen's – it's a very exciting time. I'll force myself to keep it simple, so here's a list:

Discernment – the MAP process brought a good number of us together to prayerfully ponder our mission and ministry. It produced some good ideas about the needs of our PW community, but also highlighted that we at St. Stephen's are a bit stuck: we feel under-resourced in both people and funds for the needs of our facilities and for maintaining the traditions we have loved, and we can't engage a new vision of the future with those headwinds. We are pausing MAP (with great thanks to Mo. Broderick!) while we both work to remove obstacles to our future ministry, and engage in community with each other to make the discussion of 'who we are and who we are called to be' more organic.

Facilities – We let go our part-time facilities manager early in the year. We have just arranged to bring our excellent handyman onsite weekly. Keeping up with repairs has been very difficult in the intervening time (thanks B&G team for your efforts), and our facilities are experiencing a litany of problems; floods, plumbing and the incomplete door project are particular frustrations. We do not have volunteer capacity to do any of this work. The Diocese did give us our grant money but hasn't been able to help us get the door project finished. We also recognized a while ago that we were not getting the most income or best returns from our properties; being a landlord is not any of our vocations.

Early in the year we committed to improve this situation. Thanks in particular to Francesca Blass and John Longmire, we sold the West House (14 Carlton) – a blessed gift from a prior generation of parishioners whose sale has helped to give us some financial breathing room. We have greatly expanded the PW Children's Center's use of our Parish Hall, which has already materially improved our cashflow; and we are hoping to further adjust the lease to make PWCC responsible for the maintenance of the Parish Hall. These changes have been occasionally challenging for other users of our space, and we are working through the bumps!

Finances – These two developments have given us financial breathing room – a much-closer-to-balanced budget (for now!), and a replenished endowment which will generate income until the funds are needed. As a result a relatively unchanged spending budget is proposed for 2025. Early this year we will evaluate the expensive projects that have been put on hold – roofs, drainage & bathrooms top the list. A big thank-you for several generous capital commitments: we may be able to begin tackling some of these; but we also need to protect our endowment to the extent possible. Please pledge/donate to the Capital fund!

Worship and Community – This is at the heart of what we do as Christians; I hope you have felt the Spirit at work as I have, this year. I am grateful for our worship services with wonderful sermons from Mo. Lauren, uplifting music from our Choir & Organist (thanks Tom & all!), engagement of the young people with skits, pageants and family services (thanks Rhonda & the Sunday School team!). Parishioners joined in bible study and book study. Our community team has called on the homebound, arranged rides and helped caregivers, and we've offered Port Washington opportunities for fun and thrift, with our Carnival and Rummage Sale. Our youth do many meaningful activities from beach clean-ups to food pantry collections to fundraising with Super Bowl chili!

Thank You's – To the many hands that make light work for all! Sunday School leaders, Altar Guild, Counters, Coffee Hour preparers, EMs, Lectors, Crucifers & Acolytes, Bakers, Greeners, Vestry, committee members, MAP participants, and particularly my wonderful co-Warden Robin, our amazing Office Manager Bernadette, and our beloved Rector Mo. Lauren!

Yours in Christ,
Rachel (*on behalf of The Wardens, Rachel Golder & Robin Schroeder*)

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT **by Matt Bendix & Elizabeth Predmore**

Buildings & Grounds had another busy year. A lot of major work has been accomplished and started. We've also dealt extensively with ongoing maintenance and repair items. Among our many accomplishments this year completion of the door project (excluding door security), initiating consistent meeting of the Building and Grounds Committee, support in the sale of 14 Carlton Ave, follow-up on lease negotiations with the children center, and retention of a handyman to support us an ongoing facility maintenance. The buildings and ground committee is the first point of contact for repairs, maintenance, capital projects, and leasing. A short list of some of the many projects buildings and grounds undertook this year includes the following:

1. Continuing the parish house door replacement project. We are working with PWCC on the Security Requirements for the keying and electronic access is to be added.
2. Response and repair of numerous roof leaks in the parish hall.
3. 14 Carlton Ave. sale.
4. Lease updates for the children center, AA, 6A South Washington, and the senior center.
5. Conversion of the former Sexton's apartment to office space for the children center.
6. Various plumbing repairs.

We are preparing ourselves for another busy year in our church facilities in support of St. Stephen's mission. As always, the capital expenses of our facilities are exceeding our resources. We are always looking for additional support. Please think about the parish facilities when you're considering your charitable contributions this year.

ALTAR GUILD REPORT **by Gail Grossman**

The St. Stephen's Altar Guild is responsible for many tasks related to the smooth running of church services.

We prepare the church for services: regular Sunday worship; Christmas and Easter special services; funerals; memorials; baptisms; weddings. We maintain the vessels, linens, robes and hangings; assist the crucifers, acolytes and Eucharistic Ministers with robing; arrange for the ordering of flowers for the altar and their distribution following services.

During the church year we purchase basic supplies and replenish items which are outdated or which are in short supply.

The Altar Guild administers the Memorial Flower Fund which solicits donations for flowers for the altar as a Memorial, a Thanksgiving or a Celebration. and we also arrange for donations to purchase lilies and poinsettias to help to decorate the church for Easter and Christmas Services. This year we were fortunate to have donations for almost every Sunday service and had to make limited use of dried flowers and greenery. If you would like to see live flowers every week, please make a donation to the Memorial Flower Fund.

As always we urge anyone who would like to participate in the altar guild to volunteer for any Saturday or Sunday. You will never be alone and will work with a trained AG member - so no need to panic.



LAY MINISTRY TEAM REPORT
Eucharistic Ministers/Visitors, Lectors, and Acolytes
by Rachel Golder, *Lay Ministry Coordinator Pro Tem*

From the Catechism: *“The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons.”*

Our mission is to encourage lay people to participate in the public worship of St. Stephen’s to the extent permitted by the Canons of the Episcopal Church. We carry out the mission maintaining a roster of Eucharistic Visitors (EVs), and by recruiting, training, and scheduling Eucharistic Ministers (EMs), Lectors, and Acolytes.

Until a year ago, and for YEARS, Alan Dinn managed impeccably the recruiting, training, and scheduling tasks; since he and Sue moved to PA, I have taken over the scheduling effort, and Jonathan Fielding agreed to provide training as needed. I would welcome any volunteer to take on this ministry as I have many church hats on! Let me know.

Eucharistic Visitors – Eucharistic Visitors (EVs) must be confirmed adults (16 or over). Their ministry is to administer Communion from the Reserved Sacrament to the sick and shut-ins. EVs are trained at the Mercer School and licensed by the Bishop for a three-year term. Our active EVs (Bob Chao and Ellen Shields) work with Mother Lauren and Fr. Fred Miller in this ministry.

Eucharistic Ministers – Eucharistic Ministers (EMs) are authorized to administer the chalice at regular celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. EMs must be confirmed adults (16 or over). Candidates are selected by the coordinator with the consent of the Rector; after training in the parish, they are commissioned during a celebration of the Eucharist. We have six active EMs (Matthew Bendix, Liz Engelman, Jonathan Fielding, Rachel Golder, Jim Neville, and Ellen Shields), and two who may be able to serve in 2025: Tori Gebbie and Diana von Roeschlaub.

Lectors – Several of our congregants serve as Lectors, reading Scripture lessons at the principal Eucharists on Sundays and Feast Days. Lectors must be active in the parish and be of good voice. (At our family services, lessons are read by our young people and their families.)

Acolytes (Servers and Crucifers) – Duties involve lighting and extinguishing candles, assisting with the offering, and assisting with the preparation for Communion. Older Acolytes also serve as Crucifers, carrying the Processional Cross. Candidates are eligible when they reach 4th Grade and serve until graduation from high school.

We have three active Crucifers and one Server. Please encourage our young people to engage in this important ministry!

MUSIC MINISTRY REPORT
by Thomas M. Fierro, *Director of Music*

This past September the Music Ministry made some thoughtful changes to adapt to the needs of the choir members and the church community. Moving rehearsals to Sunday mornings seems to be a practical solution that accommodates everyone's schedules and saves resources. It's great to hear that this change has been beneficial for both the choir members and the church.

The additional rehearsals seasonally after the Service for special occasions like Christmas and Holy Week/Easter allow us to learn some interesting new music. Other churches in the New York area have adopted similar practices, which suggests that this approach is effective and well-received.

If you have any questions, suggestions or would like to participate in the choir just let me know (musicooffice@ststephenspw.org).



SPIRITUAL HEALING MINISTRY REPORT

by Bob O'Brien

Member, International Order of St. Luke (OSL)

Weekly Spiritual Healing Prayers have resumed in 2025.

Please take a moment to acknowledge Dolores Kazanjian for the spiritual healing she has offered at St. Stephen's for so many years. She will be missed in this ministry. Thank you.

We are once again offering hands-on spiritual healing. We are available every Sunday at the 10 a.m. Eucharist service during communion to those who wish to come forward for healing prayer. I am also available by telephone at 516-944-9054.

Parishioners have sought prayer for their own spiritual, physical, and/or emotional healing. They have prayed with us to give thanks for blessings received. We have prayed with members and visitors for loved ones, for pets, for St. Stephen's, and for the healing of our community, our country, and the world.

In addition, we have visited and prayed with the homebound, as well as both patients, staff and medical practitioners in nursing homes, hospitals, and physicians' offices. We encourage you to avail yourself of this opportunity.

For more information about spiritual healing in general or OSL in particular, speak with us.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION REPORT

by Robin Schroeder, Delegate

The Diocesan Convention was held on November 8 and 9 at the Marriot hotel. There was a full house of clergy and lay people in attendance.

The convention started with a liturgy and there were liturgies, including Saturday morning communion throughout the program. The highlight of the liturgies were the homilies given on Friday by two of the youth delegates. Both young women were dynamic and positive speakers who made you feel hopeful about the direction of the church.

There is a new diocesan wide youth coordinator who was introduced. She is young and energetic and appears to have hit the ground running. The youth were more integrated into the main convention instead of only joining for liturgy.

The Bishop's address this year was on remembering that we are a church and not a political body. He stressed following in the teachings of Jesus, if I am hungry offer me food, naked offer me clothing, etc. But especially, love thy neighbor as thyself and whatever you do for the least of your brethren you do for me.

Highlights of the convention included an video interview with Bishop Geralyn Wolfe who was one of the first woman ordained after the Philadelphia 11. She was at convention and candidly answered questions about her experience and provided advice, particularly to our young people. The convention passed a statute modeled on the national convention requiring the elimination of single use plastics phasing in over a few years as part of the good earth stewardship. There was also a short video on one church's journey to solar power.

Voting for elective offices within the Diocesan was fast and mostly painless with one main contested election for a committee which will have a say in how the diocese is run and be involved with the search for the new bishop. Bishop Provenzano is retiring 9/26.

At the Convention there are a variety of exhibitors that highlight local church programs, diocesan wide programs and outside vendors (like travel opportunities) which provide information on what is going on outside our local area.

I find the convention an interesting opportunity to learn about what is going on with the church, what opportunities there are to get involved in or bring back locally and to make connections with other like minded people.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION REPORT

by Kynan John, Youth Delegate

On the first day of the convention, we were in the main ballroom, where some of the youth and other participants were asking the bishops questions (I had arrived late due to school and traffic). Afterwards, there was a dinner, which some of the youth, including myself, unfortunately could not attend (it was first come first serve for tickets to the dinner, and they didn't explain that the youth had free tickets, so most didn't attend). That was the end of the first day.

The second day began with a morning session in the ballroom. Afterwards, Bishop Wolfe gave a speech, talking about her experience in the Episcopal Church, how she got to where she is, and some important notes of her career,

highlighting places where the church could be improved and stating answers to questions she was often asked regarding current events. After that, we heard the bishop's address, and once it concluded, we exited the ballroom. We were given a scavenger hunt which involved collecting objects and meeting figures in the church, with proof of meeting them coming in the form of a signature.

Once the youth had left the ballroom, we were sent downstairs into a youth room. We partook in icebreakers until lunchtime, where we could finish our scavenger hunt, which included getting a selfie with Bishop Provenzano. After the lunch break, we reconvened in the youth room, where we were taught lessons on prayer, such as how it can help us strengthen our relationship with God. We also made prayer beads and were taught how we could use them. After that, those who managed to finish the scavenger hunt received prizes, which afterwards the youth delegates began to leave, ending the second day.

The convention was a very enjoyable experience, and I appreciated connecting with the other youth of the Episcopal Church. The lessons they taught were very informative and interesting. I am glad to have the opportunity to participate in the convention and look forward to more to come.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YOUTH GROUP REPORT *by Rhonda Fay, Children & Youth Minister*

Our great Sunday School teachers are Susan Massengill (chapel), Marcie Passley (music), Rhonda Fay, Gareth John and Jennifer Pines. We welcomed Katie Capogna and Lisa Fielding as substitutes.



Attendance for Sunday School is usually around 9—14 kids most of the time.

We have a lot of fun with chapel, bible lessons, arts and crafts, music, singing and hand bells.

The kids really enjoy story time with Mother Lauren during coffee hour once a month.

We have been collecting “pop tabs” for a few years and I am always amazed how full the bins get. The Ronald McDonald House really does appreciate them.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS—PLEASE KEEP THEM COMING

Our highlights January through June

JANUARY

We met for Chapel, Class and Music every Sunday for the month of January.

FEBRUARY

We had our Superbowl Lunch Sunday School fundraiser during coffee hour on Sunday, **February 11th**. The kids served Chili, hot dogs, sandwich, soda and water, plus delicious baked items from Marisyn’s Bake Shoppe. Many MANY Thanks to all of you that came with an appetite, we raised \$346.00 for the Lutheran Church paper pantry. Awesome!!!

Due to the weather, our Shrove Tuesday “All you can eat pancake night” unfortunately had to be postponed until coffee hour the following Sunday, **February 18th**. It was a Great time and “thank you” to the MANY hungry people that came to eat pancakes, sausage, bacon, and scrambled eggs.

MARCH

On Sunday **March 10th** Sunday School and Youth Group read a skit in the Church at the beginning of the 10AM Service. It was a skit for Lent and is titled “In The Wilderness”. What would you take camping if you could only take one thing?

On Palm Sunday, **March 24th**, we read the Passion of Christ in church. After the reading we left the service to decorate Easter eggs, arts and craft projects, and to bake our annual Hot Cross Buns out of Pillsbury Crescent Rolls, which we served for coffee hour.

Unfortunately, the Easter Egg Hunt was canceled this year. There will definitely be one next year, but there has been a change. Instead of taking place on Easter Sunday, The Easter Egg Hunt will be on Palm Sunday after the 10AM service.



APRIL

We celebrated Earth Day, not once, but twice this year. Both times were awesome. On Sunday **April 21st**, twelve of us got together and cleaned Stannards Brook Park. Everyone was such great sports, they really got into it. **THEY COLLECTED A LOT OF GARBAGE 6 HUGE BAGS FULL!!**

The following Sunday **April 28th**, we cleaned Baxter Estates Beach, located along Shore Road. We caught low tide at the perfect time and it was great.

Many Thanks to the kids and adults who were scouring the beach for garbage, because they came across a Herring Gull in distress. It looked like the gull swallowed some fishing line and the hook was attached somewhere in his mouth. When the kids found the bird, the other side of the line was stuck in some rocks and the gull couldn't fly anywhere. Gareth broke the line and Misty held the bird while Jennifer could make necessary arrangements for it at the Wildlife Center. The kids named it "Shelby" Thank you Jennifer for driving "Shelby" to the hospital. This is What Earth Day Is All About. It was such a great day!



MAY

On Sunday **May 5th**, we celebrated Cinco De Mayo with our very first "Build your own Taco or Nacho bowl" as well as baked goods, snacks and beverages.

JUNE

On **June 16th**, our last day of Sunday school was in the big church at 10am for family service. After the service, we had a Sunday school celebration in the parish hall with build your own ice cream sundaes and other activities.

Our Highlights September through December

September

Sunday School started **September 8th**, We had a great big Pot Luck Picnic/BBQ in the courtyard, during coffee hour after the 10AM service. There was so much food! We will definitely do this again next September. We welcomed 3 new Sunday School students :):) Welcome Ayalen, Frankie and Ryan!

October

We collected school supplies for Long Island Cares—88 lbs worth! Our most ever!! Thanks for your generous donations.

November

On Sunday **Nov. 3rd**, the Sunday School performed a skit called "Stone Soup" during the 10am family service.

We collected \$350.00 worth of Stop & Shop Gift Cards for Our Lady Of Fatima's Thanksgiving Food Drive. Thanks for your generous donations.

December

We adopted family #80 for Christmas, from Our Lady Fatima Thanks to everyone that made Christmas so much merrier for Family #80.

The kids did an amazing job performing the Christmas pageant!!



Thank you for your Sunday School Support...It is so Much Appreciated!!!

INREACH

The “Friendly Visitors Program”

by Nora Silbersack, *Community Committee Chair*

Early in 2024 members of the Community Committee and the Christ's Light Committee Chair (Rosetta Chao) met to compile a list of fellow parishioners who due to limited community mobility might appreciate contact from a 'friendly visitor' on a weekly, monthly or occasional basis.

Over the year we reached out to a dozen or so parishioners, and throughout 2024 Committee Visitors have maintained a steady stream of contacts. This is an informal and fluid program, with outreach via in-person visits, phone calls, or even letters to long time parishioners who have left the area.

If there is interest in learning more please feel free to contact Nora Silbersack at at nora.silbersack@gmail.com.

In addition to the “*Friendly Visitors Program*” described by Nora above, here is a list of events and activities that took place in 2024 to engage the St. Stephens community:

- “Traveling Home” Parishioner-Led Book Study
- Lenten Soup & Study – “*Wait With Me: Meeting God in Loneliness*” by Jason Gaboury
- *Mission Action Plan* (MAP) Discernment Process
- Liturgical Space Configuration Trial & Survey
- Fall Grounds Clean Up
- Caroling for our homebound
- December Parish Potluck and Caroling Party

OUTREACH

The Sunday School & Youth Group continue to be our “superstars of outreach” at St. Stephen’s. You can read the details about the various projects they took on this past year in Rhonda Fay’s report starting on page 21.

St. Stephen’s continues the tradition of donating the use of our facilities, either free of charge or for a deeply discounted rental fee, to community organizations such as the Girl Scouts of Port Washington, Port Summer Show, Play Troupe of Port Washington, and the Port Washington Community Senior Center. Our longstanding relationship with Alcoholics Anonymous continues too – they hold their meetings Sunday through Friday either in the Parish Hall or St. Cecilia Room. 2024 was the fourth year that the Nassau County Board of Elections has used St. Stephen’s Parish Hall as a polling site for one of the Port districts. They offer the church small stipend of \$70 per use. Lastly, on December 22, 2024, we hosted another interfaith Winter Solstice Meditation and Sound Bath in the church. This was a free community event, facilitated by The Rev. Dr. Hildur Palsdottir, with sound bath by Iris Eplan, LMSW: The Divine Awakening Healing Arts Space; both are based in Port Washington.

Our Rummage Sale in July and Fall Children’s Carnival in October are continuing opportunities to bring joy to the community and for them to get to know St. Stephen’s while raising money to support our missions.

In June, St. Stephen’s once again celebrated Pride Month, by partnering up with the local LGBTQIA+ organization, *Be The Rainbow*. Some parishioners participated in the Port Pride Walk. The church displayed “Port Pride” and “Love is Love” signs to show its support.

Thanks to Rachel Golder, St. Stephen’s raised money again this year for *Summer Together!* The funds donated by our very generous parishioners went toward enabling 90 children to attend two weeks at local day camps, as well as supporting Summer Together’s fee-reduction program for income-eligible families at Manorhaven and Whitney Pools.

On September 11th, to bring some solace and comfort to our neighbors, we offered a special noonday healing service, as well as kept the church open all day for anyone wishing to enter to engage in silent reflection and personal prayer.

As part of our Mission Action Plan process, we invited community leaders were to participate in a panel discussion over Zoom to learn more about the work they do in the community, and what they felt was lacking in Port Washington, to see how St. Stephen’s might be able to help.

St. Stephen’s continued its involvement with initiatives led by the Port Washington Interfaith Clergy Association such as its “Laundry Love” program at the Port Washington Super Laundromat in Manorhaven, and the “Paper & Personal Care Pantry” program at Lutheran Church of Our Savior.



Donald Miller continues his yearly donations to the The Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Miller Fund, established to honor the memory of his father and mother by helping people in need. As Mr. Miller has stated in his letter that accompanied his donation to St. Stephen's, his parents' desire was "always to help people less fortunate than themselves". In 2024, Mr. Miller's end of year donation was used to purchase more Stop & Shop gift cards (\$20 each) to distribute to individuals coming to the church office looking for food assistance. We will also be purchasing a handful of \$10 Dunkin' Donut cards to offer as well.



The Rector's Charitable Fund also remains in place to help people looking for assistance with things such as purchasing gas, help with utility bills, etc.

Finally, through World Vision, we have continued sponsoring our boy adoptee from Lesotho, Africa named Paballo Chalatsane, with a small monthly donation. He is now 12 years old and is an only child living with his mother in Phamong who struggles to provide for her family. St. Stephen's sponsorship helps pay for Pabaollo's educational needs, and helps his community with access to clean water, healthcare, and spiritual enrichment.

FALL CARNIVAL & BAKE SALE REPORT **by Roopali Gupta, Chair**

On Saturday October 26th, 2024 we held our annual Fall Kids Carnival and Bake Sale. The Carnival was a success in building friendships and connections within the parish as well as our community. The Carnival generated a total of approximately \$5000 in revenues with expenses of approximately \$3000. The net carnival receipts totaled approximately \$2000. Although not financially our best year certainly not a bad one. This year did not have the added benefit of an online bake sale due to scheduling constraints. We hope to bring back the online bake sale next year. This year the event was also a couple weeks earlier to work around the November election.

We should count amongst our successes at the carnival the inspiration of the great parish and community participation and a very enjoyable day for all who volunteered and participated. The carnival and bake sale would not have been as successful if not for the volunteers from the Schreiber HS Key Club. Mrs. Janine Goldstein, Schreiber Health Teacher and Key Club Advisor, hopes to continue offering our Fall Carnival as a volunteer opportunity to her students for many years to come.



We've have yet to set a date for the Carnival for 2025. The Carnival and Bake Sale Committee will finalize either November 1st or November 8th and submit to the Vestry for approval.

I want to thank all the Parishioner, youth members and outside volunteers who helped make the Fall Carnival and Bake Sale a success. We literally could not do it without you, your continued dedication and support. THANK YOU!

Yours in Christ,
Roopali Gupta John



CONSIGNMENT SHOP REPORT **by Susan Dietz Massingill**

The mission of the St. Stephen's Consignment Shop is "Good deals...Good works."

We have over 300 active consignors. The community and parishioners also donate, which represents almost 50 % of revenue. The shop is a method of repurposing clothes and housewares, while helping the community and the church. We have been actively encouraging donations.

Caren Salkin, and our part time shop managers, Susan Snyder and Susan Stern are supported by 5 volunteers, Susan Dietz Massingill, Katherine Crean, Agnes Dickson, Christine Cheng and Kerry Curan.

If you can spare a few hours on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday from 10 to 4 please stop by the shop and see any one of us or email Caren at shop@ststephenspw.org.

The shop inventory and cash register computer system had to be replaced because the old system was sunsetted by the company. This is a new monthly expense. It is a massive learning curve and complicates our work, but will result in a better understanding of sales distribution and changed workload for the accountant.

Our contribution to the church this year was about \$30,000 which is a huge increase since last year. The increase is partially explained by changes in credit card management and increased donation sales.



COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

The tasks that the Communications Committee undertakes include: managing our social media presence; submitting press releases or calendar notices to local publications; creating and distributing promotional content for church events to print and online media outlets, as well as to the parish, in both paper and digital formats, for posting in windows or bulletin boards of local businesses, to email to friends and family, and to promote on social media; editing and emailing the monthly Banner and Sunday School e-newsletters, and updating the church's website.

The website is an important vehicle for "church shoppers" who are looking for more information about our parish, as well as for current members. Thank you to Bill Anderson who not only maintains and updates the church's website, but also puts together both our Banner and Sunday School & Youth e-Newsletters. In addition to input from the Parish Administrator about what content should be added, removed or updated, Bill is also aided by feedback from the Website Committee, consisting of Robin Schroeder, Nora Silbersack and Jennifer Wilson Pines. Their task is to go through the website to make sure that the content is up to date and to figure out how to make the site engaging and easier to use/navigate around. Please feel free to let any one of us know if you happen to come across anything on the church's website that needs updating.

The Banner is the church's electronic newsletter which is emailed monthly. Rhonda Fay also puts together a Sunday School and Youth Group newsletter that also gets distributed via email to the parish. These newsletters are also mailed out to a group of parishioners who do not use email or prefer a printed copy. If you or someone you know wishes to receive a hard copy of the newsletter or any parish communications, such as this Annual Report, please let Bernadette in the church office know—office@ststephenspw.org or (516) 767-0363.

Thanks to Jennifer Wilson Pines for documenting our various church events with her beautiful photography. She has also placed press releases, pictures and ads with the local papers, like Port News.

St. Stephen's has a social media presence on Facebook and Instagram.

- The church's Facebook page, *St. Stephen's Church - Episcopal, Port Washington, NY* (<https://www.facebook.com/StStephensPW>), is updated by Roopali Gupta, Alan Dinn, Jennifer Wilson Pines, Mo. Lauren and Bernadette Reyes; it currently has 504 followers (up 38 from last year).
- We also have a Facebook group that is linked to the St. Stephen's Facebook page called "St. Stephen's Episcopal Church PW Community". Created by Roopali Gupta, this parish community forum is exclusively for parishioners and friends of St. Stephen's only, where they can share church events, ideas, and prayers. To date, the group has 103 members. If you would like to join, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/547829012243552>.

- Sue Snyder, one of the Shop Associates, maintains the *St. Stephen's Consignment Shop, Port Washington* Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ststephensconsignmentshop/>). It currently has 514 followers.
- The church's Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/ststephenspw/>) currently has 98 followers; the Shop's Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/ssecconsignmentshop/>) currently has 83 followers.

The Parish Directory is available through the church office. If you would like a copy, please contact the church office to get one (we do not distribute copies of the directory via email). Please also let the church office know if you have had a change of address, email or phone number since last year, so we can update your record in the database.

Please help spread the word about our wonderful parish:

- **Get on our mail list.** Much of our communication is now digital, and we'd like to be able to include all parishioners. Send your email address to office@ststephenspw.org. Feel free to invite those you know to join the mail list as well.
- **Like us on Facebook and follow us on Instagram, and invite your friends and family to do the same.** Please comment and share our posts. This helps us grow our presence. You can have your church-related pictures posted to our Facebook page (let one of the Facebook editors listed above know) and then tag friends.
- **Send your pictures of church events** to office@ststephenspw.org and banner@ststephenspw.org.
- **Forward our Banner and Sunday School e-newsletters to friends** in the community who may be interested in visiting St. Stephen's.
- **Invite friends, family, and/or acquaintances** to attend on-line or in-person services or any of St. Stephen's free events during the year, or register their child for Sunday School.
- **Put up any of the church's event flyers** in your workplaces or places you patronize if they allow it.
- **Use your St. Stephen's "swag" - tote bags, car magnets, water bottles and/or coffee travel mugs out in public.** If you don't have any, you can also get these items through the church office.
- Remember that **word of mouth** is still an effective tool, even in this digital age.

THE END-OF-MEETING BLESSING

SINGING OF THE CLOSING HYMN

On the next page

THE DISMISSAL

Let us Bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

ADJOURNMENT

WLP 752: "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place"

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, _____ and I
 (2. There are) bless - ings you can - not re - ceive _____ till you
 (3. If you) say he saved you from your sin, _____ now you're

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord. _____ There are
 know him in his full - ness, and be - lieve. _____ You're the
 weak, you're bound, and can - not en - ter in, _____ you can

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, _____ and I
 one to pro - fit when you say, _____ "I am
 make it right if you will yield; _____ you'll en -

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord. _____
 going to walk with Je - sus all the way." _____
 joy the Ho - ly Spir - it that we feel. _____

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, Sweet Heav - en - ly Dove,

Stay right here with us, fill - ing us with your love.

And for these bless - ings we lift our hearts in

praise; with - out a doubt we'll know that we have

been re - vived when we shall leave this place. 1. 2. 3.
 2. There are
 3. If you place.

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

9 Carlton Avenue

Port Washington, New York 11050

(516) 767-0363 office@ststephenspw.org

www.ststephenspw.org

Sunday Services

8am (in person)

10am (in person & on Zoom/YouTube)

Sunday School & Youth Group

10am in the Parish Hall, September-June



Photo by Mo. Lauren McLeavey