

July 23, 2023
10:00 AM Service of Worship
8th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alan Deak

Leader: We gather as God's beloved children –

People: However glad we are, however out of sorts we are.

Leader: We come together as a people whom
Jesus calls into community –

People: So this becomes a place where all are welcome.

Leader: We gather as God's people, rejoicing in God's steadfast love.

**People: Remembering that God is with us always,
there is nothing that can keep God from loving us.**

Leader: We have come to give thanks,
to pray and sing, to be with one another –

All: Let us worship the Lord our God!

*HYMN #626

As the Deer
(Sing 3 Times)

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God,

**Open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the
fullness of our lives – all that which is beautiful and good,
and all that which is hurtful and hateful.**

We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.

We love with condition. We judge and condemn.

We cast the first stone, and keep the logs in our own eyes.

We do not turn to You as the source of our healing.

Forgive us, we pray.

Forgive our sin, and empower us

to be imitators of Christ in love and service.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE #581

Glory Be to the Father

***Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.***

*THE PASSING OF GOD'S LOVE AND PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all ... **And also with you.**

Proclaiming the Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rosie England

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 42:1-8

p. 556-557

This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:31-39

p. 1119

This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON "The Unstoppable Love of God"

Laura Zhang Choi

Responding to the Word

*DECLARATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and
earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was
conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he
descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God
the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the
quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy
catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of
sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

*HYMN #450

Be Thou My Vision

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Denise DeMasi

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing and Following the Word

*HYMN #435

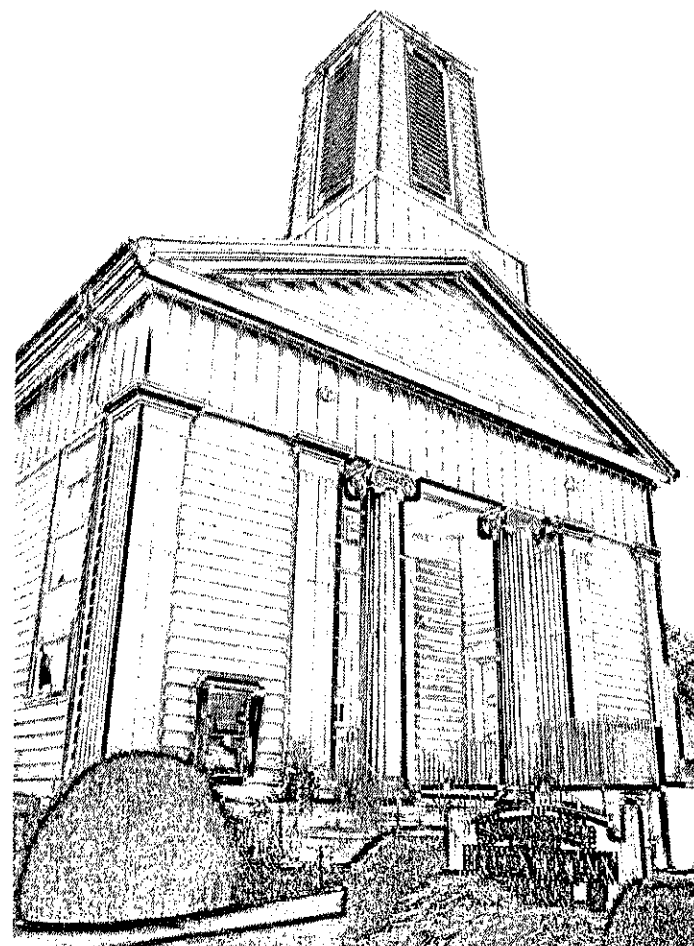
There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*Please stand if able

STEWARTSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Stewartsville Presbyterian Church

The Ministers: All the Members

The Rev. Stephen Park Choi, Pastor
The Rev. Jack E. Roan, Pastor Emeritus
Brian Ballentine, Music Director
Denise DeMasi, Choir Director
Laura Choi, Christian Education Director
Renée Herb, Office Manager
Mary Lou Gary, Treasurer

550 North Main Street
Stewartsville, NJ 08886
908-859-1399

www.stewartsvillepc.org
e-mail: office@stewartsvillepc.org

PRAYER LIST OF THE CONGREGATION

(as of July 19, 2023)

Schriever Family	Rosie E.	Jody G.
Johnson Family	Jean S.	Tom V.
Brian & Marlaina & Family	Pat B. & Dorothy G.	Lisa H. Rachel S.
Morton Family	Steven H. &	Jane R.
Markle Family	Deanna M.	Rodney R.
Mission Trip Participants	Frank I.	Ryder H.
Dunleavy Family	Lisa S.'s Family	Romeo B.
Mondzak Family	Jerry G.'s Family	Nicholas C.
Brett M.	Nuss Family	Vanessa P.
Pomeroy Family	Dave W.	John W.
Denise & Katie D.	John A.	David & Carole J.
Slack Family	Sue H.	Ben W.
Tony & Pat M.	Jay M.	Steven M.
Bob H.	Suzanne S.'s Family	Jeffrey G. Randy W.
Peace M.'s Family	Glen & Dorothy H.	Ero C.
Gaertner Family	Archer Family	Betty N.
Ray & Jo G.	Gary Family	Kevin O.
Barbara N.	Latif Family	Renée's Parents

Victims of Violence and Natural Disasters

Justice and Peace

This Week's Mission Partner: Foundation for Peace

To submit a prayer request, please contact the church office at 908-859-1399 or office@stewartsvillepc.org

OUR CONGREGATION IN MINISTRY

Assisting in Worship Today	Alan Deak
Greeter Today	Don and Louisa Miers
Broadcast Team	Bill Fleming and Bill Nixon
Nursery Today	Ella Choi and Sarah Sampson

Week Ahead at Stewartville Presbyterian Church

Today, 7/23: Pastor Stephen on the Mission Trip through 7/29
Deacon's Chapel Service, 2:00 p.m., Lopatcong Care Center
AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Wednesday, 7/26: AA, 7:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Friday, 7/28: Womens Circle, 6:00 p.m., Cherry Hill Hotel

Sunday, 7/30: Worship Service, 10:00 a.m., Mission Trip Sunday
AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

This Week's Birthdays and Anniversaries

Today, 7/23: David Jochen

Friday, 7/28: Roberta Fohr

Saturday, 7/29: Debbie Smith

Announcements

Welcome. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We invite you to sign the pew pad as they are being passed. Restrooms are located downstairs in Roan Hall. We hope that the service is a blessing to you, and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Elder on Call. Pastor Stephen will be on the Mission Trip through July 29. If you are in need of pastoral care while he is away, please contact the following Elder on Call:

Bill Nixon at 908-319-2800

Mission Trip. There are 10 people currently on the Mission Trip to Puerto Rico through Saturday, July 29. Please keep them in your prayers.

Please join us for Mission Trip Sunday next Sunday, July 30. The mission trip participants will share their experiences from their week working in Puerto Rico during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Prospective New Members. If you are interested in learning more about the Stewartville Presbyterian Church or in becoming a member, please contact the church office. We will receive new members in September.

Announcements (continued)

Guest Preacher. Today we welcome **Laura Zhang Choi** (she/her) to our pulpit. Laura is married to Pastor Stephen and mother to Tay, Ella, and Henry. She is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary in Christian Education. Laura is completing her M.Div studies at New Brunswick Theological Seminary, and is under care for ordination in the PC(USA). She is passionate about building community wherever she goes and about the work at the intersections of faith, justice, and educational equity. Laura is a Greenwich Township School Board member, steering committee member of API Rainbow Parents of PFLAG NYC/NJ, active member of The E Pluribus Unum Project, and works to expand safe and inclusive spaces for all God's children. She lives for rich conversations, good coffee, books, and walks in the woods.

With Sympathy. Mary Jean "G.G." Schriever, a long-time member of our church, passed away on Tuesday, July 18. G.G. had served as an Elder and a Deacon, assisted with VBS, and participated in the Friday Morning Devotional Group.

Her funeral service will be held on Saturday, Aug. 5, at 9:30 a.m. in our sanctuary. Visitation will be from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Please keep G.G.'s husband Kurt, daughter Leigh Anne, and their family in your prayers.

Alford G. Johnson Jr., a long-time member of our congregation, passed away on Saturday, July 15. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Please keep his children, Bo and Deb, and their family in your prayers.

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
who comforts us in all our sorrows,
so that we can comfort others in their sorrow,
with the consolation we have received from God."
2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Women's Circle. The Women's Circle will meet this Friday, July 28, at 6:00 p.m. at the Cherry Hill Hotel, 442 Bushkill Center Road, Nazareth, PA.

All women are invited to join us for a meal, good conversations, and the opportunity to encourage one another.

For more information or to make a reservation, please call Linda Williams at 908-454-8104.

Adult Lunch Group. "Grazing with Grace," our Adult Lunch Group will meet on Thursday, Aug. 10, at 11:30 a.m. at the Palace Restaurant, 3250 Easton Ave., Bethlehem, PA.

We are encouraging participants to bring a can of soup or \$1 to the luncheons to donate to NORWESCAP Food Bank.

If you plan to attend the luncheon, please call Louisa Miers at 908-763-3861 by Monday, Aug. 7 to make your reservation. Also, contact Louisa if you need a ride or directions to the restaurant.

Summer Offering. Please remember the church during the summer months.

If you are on vacation, please consider mailing your offering to the church office, or contributing online while you are away (www.stewartsvillepc.org, Give Now).

Catholic Charities Food Pantry. We continue to donate food and toiletries to the Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

At this time, the food pantry is in particular need of peanut butter and jelly, pasta sauce, condiments, Hamburger Helper, and canned fruit, as well as grocery bags.

Devotionals. The following daily devotionals are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary:

- "Our Daily Bread," June/July/August issue.
- "Today," July/August issue.
- "Our Daily Bread," large-print edition, July/August/Sept. issue.

Pray for This Week's Mission Partner: Foundation for Peace.

The mission of Foundation for Peace is building relationships, bringing hope and transforming communities by working hand in hand with local communities and churches in the Dominican Republic, Kenya and Haiti. Among the things offered by Foundation for Peace are healthcare and education. To learn more about Foundation for Peace, visit their website at foundationforpeace.org