

August 13, 2023  
10:00 AM Service of Worship  
11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word

WELCOME

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Judy Melchore

Leader: Together, we choose to worship and to serve God,  
which means:

People: **We choose love.**  
**We choose hope.**  
**We choose peace.**  
**We choose kindness.**  
**We choose welcome.**  
**We choose justice.**  
**We choose to serve God.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord our God!

\*HYMN #612

*We Praise You, O God*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy and Gracious God,**  
**You are our light and wonder and glory.**  
**You are our strength and our delight;**  
**you give us all we need to live.**  
**Yet we are distracted by all that glitters,**  
**continually grasping for more.**  
**Rather than trusting in your provision,**  
**we chase after our own happiness.**  
**Forgive us, O Lord, and turn us back to you.**  
**Overwhelm us with your goodness**  
**and cover us with your grace,**  
**for we know that you are the source of all life,**  
**the fount of all that is good.**  
**In the name of Jesus, we pray.**

\*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

Mary Lou Gary

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 70

p. 573

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

ANTHEM #625

*How Great Thou Art*

Men of the Church

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 25:1-13

p. 983

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"Don't Listen to Bridesmaids"

Pastor Stephen 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 #465

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

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

Catie Jewell

\*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 #837

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

\*Please stand if able

**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

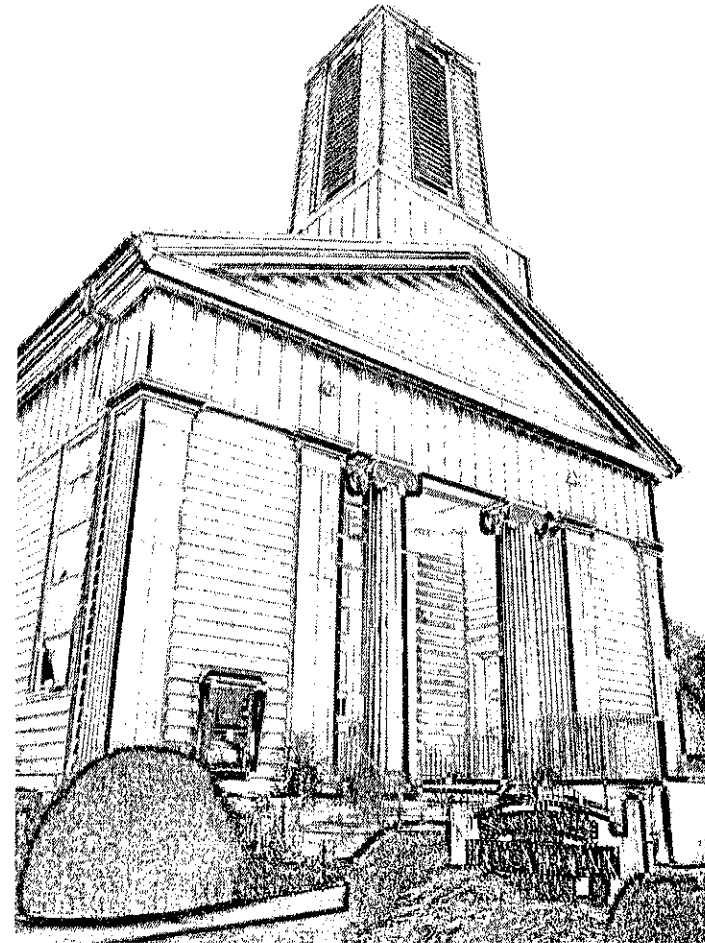
Denise DeMasi, Choir Director

Laura Choi, Christian Education Director

Renée Herb, Office Manager

Mary Lou Gary, Treasurer

# STEWARTSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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Stewartsville, NJ 08886

908-859-1399

[www.stewartsvillepc.org](http://www.stewartsvillepc.org)

e-mail: [office@stewartsvillepc.org](mailto:office@stewartsvillepc.org)

# PRAYER LIST OF THE CONGREGATION

(as of Aug. 11, 2023)

Rea, Sampson & Clark Families	Dunleavy Family	Nuss Family
Deb J.	Mondzak Family	Dave W.
Markle Family	Brett M.	Jay M.
Johnny D.	Pomeroy Family	Rachel S.
Mark Y.	Slack Family	Jane R.
Caitlin E.	Tony & Pat M.	Rodney R.
Ambani & Family	Bob H.	Ryder H.
Katie D.	Peace M.'s Family	Romeo B.
Kwong Family	Gaertner Family	Nicholas C.
Tony's Son	Ray & Jo G.	Vanessa P.
Abbott/Jochen Family	Barbara N.	John W.
Kim S.	Rosie E.	David & Carole J.
Victor W.	Jean S.	Ben W.
Schriever Family	Pat B. & Dorothy G.	Steven M.
Johnson Family	Steven H. & Deanna M.	Jeffrey G.
Brian & Marlaina & Family	Frank I.	Randy W.
Morton Family	Lisa S.'s Family	Ero C.
	Jerry G.'s Family	Betty N.
		Kevin O.
		Renée's Parents

**Victims of Violence and Natural Disasters  
Justice and Peace**

**This Week's Mission Partner: Catholic Charities Food Pantry**

To submit a prayer request, please contact the church office at  
908-859-1399 or [office@stewartsvillepc.org](mailto:office@stewartsvillepc.org)

## OUR CONGREGATION IN MINISTRY

Assisting in Worship Today	Judy Melchore
Greeter Today	Kay Piperato
Broadcast Team	Alan Deak and Bill Fleming
Nursery Today	Ella Choi and Henry Choi

### Week Ahead at Stewartsville Presbyterian Church

**Today, 8/13:** AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

**Tuesday, 8/15:** Pastor Stephen on Vacation through Aug. 22

**Wednesday, 8/16:** AA, 7:00 p.m., Roan Hall

**Friday, Aug. 18:** Fiber Arts, 9:30 a.m., Roan Hall

Women's Circle, 6:00 p.m., Pizza Café #4, Phillipsburg

**Sunday, 8/20:** Worship Service, 10:00 a.m.

AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

### This Week's Birthdays and Anniversaries

**Monday, 8/14:** Laura Albert

Romeo Baker

Dave Marek

Justin Marek

Fred & Mary Lou Gary – Anniversary

**Tuesday, 8/15:** Walt Patton

Mary Sampson

Jacob & Morgan Banghart – Anniversary

**Wednesday, 8/16:** Jon & Jessica Cantagallo-Rohm – Anniversary

**Thursday, 8/17:** Kay Piperato

### 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 vacation from Aug. 15 through Aug. 22.

If you are in need of pastoral care while he is away, please contact the following Elder on Call:

Fred Gary at 908-454-6311

### **Announcements (continued)**

**Summer Singing.** All men of the church are asked to join us today for the annual singing of “How Great Thou Art.”

On Sunday, Aug. 27, during the 10:00 a.m. worship service, all women of the church will be invited to come forward and join in singing “Great Is Thy Faithfulness.”

No experience or rehearsal is necessary – please join us in lifting our voices to the Lord!

**Women’s Circle.** The Women’s Circle will meet this Friday, Aug. 18, at 6:00 p.m. at Pizza Café #4, 665 Columbus Ave., Phillipsburg.

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.

**Blood Drive.** We will be sponsoring a blood drive with the Miller-Keystone Blood Center, on Sunday, Sept. 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the church.

We need to have 25 people registered to donate. The bloodmobile will be in the parking lot.

Anyone wishing to donate can call Cindy Bowman at 908-859-2823 or 908-619-8697 or email her at [cmbowman1023@gmail.com](mailto:cmbowman1023@gmail.com) to set up an appointment.

**Prospective New Members.** If you are interested in learning more about the Stewartsville Presbyterian Church or in becoming a member, please contact the church office.

We will receive new members in September.

**Deacons’ Offering.** During the month of August, we are receiving a special offering to support the work and ministry of our Deacons.

Please use the envelope in your offering box, or write a check and note “Deacons” on the memo line.

For online giving, please go to the church website ([www.stewartsvillepc.org](http://www.stewartsvillepc.org)), Give Now, Deacons.

**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 dish soap, tissues, laundry detergent, mustard, pasta salad mix, and peanut butter and jelly, as well as grocery bags.

**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](http://www.stewartsvillepc.org), Give Now).

**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: Catholic Charities Food Pantry.** The Catholic Charities Food Pantry in Phillipsburg is a safety net to individuals and families with limited resources who search for the everyday means of sustenance – food. The food pantry is the largest in Warren County, servicing more than 1,000 households. The food pantry maintains an inventory of the recommended dietary nutrients of grains, vegetables, fruits, dairy and protein products. We donate food and toiletries to Catholic Charities through our collection each month.