

The Stewartville Press

The Newsletter of Stewartville Presbyterian Church
550 North Main Street, Stewartville, NJ 08886
908-859-1399

www.stewartvillepc.org

Church e-mail – office@stewartvillepc.org

Pastor's e-mail – rev.stephenchoi@gmail.com

November 2023

The Ministers: All the Members

The Rev. Stephen Park Choi – Pastor

The Rev. Jack E. Roan – Pastor Emeritus

Laura Choi – Christian Education Director

Renée Herb – Office Manager

Brian Ballentine – Music Director

Denise DeMasi – Choir Director

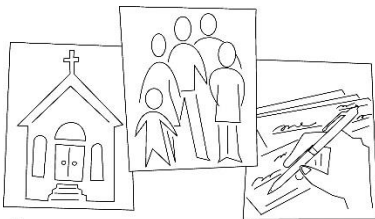
Mary Lou Gary – Treasurer

Sarah Sampson – Treasurer Elect

Worship Service is held at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

**Holy Communion will be celebrated during the
10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, Nov. 5.**

Please see page 5 for information on Zoom link.



Stewardship Sunday

Stewardship Sunday. Stewardship Sunday is Nov. 19. You will receive your 2024 Pledge Card and Time & Talent Sheets in the mail.

Please bring them to church on Stewardship Sunday. You may also mail your Pledge Cards and Time & Talent Sheets to the church office by the end of November, or put them in the offering plate on another Sunday if you will not be here on Nov. 19.

Additional Pledge Cards and Time & Talent Sheets are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Pot Luck Lunch after Worship Service! Following the Stewardship Sunday worship service, there will be a Pot Luck Lunch in Roan Hall. Those attending are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. Please RSVP to Linda Williams at 908-454-8104.

The Giving Tree. Our "Giving Tree" tags will be set up in the back of the sanctuary on Sunday, Nov. 12.

There will be tags on the table indicating information about a child in need (age, size, and interests) from the NJ Division of Child Protection and Permanency (formerly DYFS).

By choosing a tag, you will have the opportunity to purchase a gift or two to help make that child's Christmas a little brighter!

The deadline for returning unwrapped gifts is Sunday, Dec. 3.



A Prayer for Israel and Palestine

In moments like these, sometimes the only thing we can do is pray. Please join me in prayer.
Lord, hear our prayers:

God of Peace,
we come to you unknown of where else to turn.

We bring ourselves to you in prayer for the people of Israel and Palestine.

As violence seems to be winning over the brokenness of our communities,
we lift the broken hearts of your children.

For your children who do not know if they will have their very lives tomorrow,
we ask for your comfort.

For those who have friends, family, and community in Israel and Palestine,
we pray that you sit with us in our worry.

For those who have already been killed by violence,
we pray that they may be made whole in you.

For all people around the world who are now living in fear that they will be retaliated against
because of where they are from, we ask for your protection.

For those of us glued to the news channel networks and newspapers,
may we have a respite to sleep.

For those who cannot look as they sit alone in anxiety over our world,
cover us with your presence.

God, for all of your children, in this time of violence, complicated conflicts, polarization, and
situations so politicized that we do not know what to say or pray, we ask for your knowing presence.

We know you hold us and grieve when violence overtakes our world, and we know you grieve
the historical suffering of Israel and Palestine.

God, you alone are the one who holds us.
You alone are the one who can quiet our minds when all we feel is fear.

We ask you that you hold our fears and worries now for our extended community.

As we don't know what will happen next in our ever-changing world, we ask for you to be a balm
to our aching hearts until the day when all we feel is your abiding peace.

Amen.

- Prayer written by the Rev. Audrey Webber

TRUNK OR TREAT

We held our annual Trunk or Treat on Sunday, Oct. 29. The rain didn't dampen our Halloween spirits - we moved the event inside to Roan Hall. Children and adults had a marvelous time! And the kiddos got lots of goodies.



Many thanks to Janis Clark for coordinating this fun event! And thank you to all the adults and children for participating.





New Member. On Sunday, Oct. 29, we were excited to welcome **Laurie Winans** back into the life and ministry of the Stewartville Presbyterian Church. Laurie had attended SPC when she was a child and had been confirmed as a member.

Women's Circle. The Women's Circle will meet on Friday, Nov. 17, at 6:00 p.m. at Warrenside Tavern, 511 Route 173, Stewartville.

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.

Needlecraft Group. The Needlecraft Group will meet from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 10, in the large classroom.

This is an opportunity to gather together and work on your own projects, while having lively conversations!

For more information, call Sue Gruver at 573-999-7014.

Texts and Emails from Pastor Stephen.

If you receive texts or emails from Pastor Stephen asking for money, these are scams. Please do not reply to them, and let Pastor Stephen know.



NOVEMBER

- 3 Tim Sampson
- 4 Pamela Alercia
Mike Ferri
- 6 Wayne Hart
- 7 Connie Collins
- 8 Janis Clark
Ellisyn "Ellie" Jewell
- 9 Ella Choi
- 10 Anthony & Jessica Sbriscia –
Anniversary
- 12 Richard Duckworth
Barbara Lovelace
Nancy Sampson
Wayne & Joan Hart – Anniversary
- 13 Denise DeMasi
- 15 Tegan Hurte
- 18 Allison de Haas
- 19 Hailey Lurig
- 21 Raymond Poremba
Keith Villano
- 22 Rachel Villano
- 23 Dawyne Stone
- 24 Carol Evanoski
Helen Hawk
- 26 Jim & Debbie Riley – Anniversary
- 27 Jay & Eileen Miers – Anniversary
- 28 David Gary
- 30 Anthony Albert
McKenna Baker

Birthday/Anniversary List. Are we missing your birthday or anniversary? Please let the office know, either by calling 908-859-1399 or e-mailing office@stewartvillepc.org
We don't want to miss your special day!

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed
Friday, Nov. 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday.
Regular office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

SUNDAY ZOOM WORSHIP

The Zoom worship service is held at 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. It is broadcast live from the sanctuary during the in-person worship service.

Holy Communion will be celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Please be prepared with bread and juice/wine.

Please join us every Sunday morning by using the link below or by calling with the Meeting ID.

The great thing about Zoom is even if you do not have a computer or smartphone, you can still phone in to listen to the service.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at office@stewartsvillepc.org or call the church during our regular office hours, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

For the latest news and information, please also visit the church website, www.stewartsvillepc.org

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94418910396?pwd=WlQwMHBkZHZUMy9sTFpQaThEMkRvdz09>

Dial by your location

1-646-558-8656 (New York)

Meeting ID: 944 1891 0396

Passcode: 08886

Deacons' Offering. During the month of November, we will receive 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 Give Now, Deacons.



Adult Lunch Group. "Grazing with Grace," our Adult Lunch Group will meet on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 11:30 a.m. at Williams Family Restaurant, 3630 William Penn Highway, Easton, PA.

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

We had 26 people attend our October luncheon, and we collected \$53 for the food bank.

If you plan to attend the luncheon, please call Louisa Miers at 908-763-3861 by Monday, Nov. 6 to make your reservation. Also, contact Louisa if you need a ride or directions to the restaurant.

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

In October, we donated 26 bags of food and toiletries, along with reusable grocery bags.

At this time, the food pantry is in particular need of cereal, soup, canned vegetables and fruit, and tuna fish, as well as grocery bags.



Aluminum Can Tabs and Bottle Caps. We will continue to collect aluminum can tabs and bottle caps. There are containers on the table in the back of the sanctuary where you may put them.

Elder on Call. Pastor Stephen will be attending the Presbyterian Church Moderators' Conference from Thursday, Nov. 9 through Sunday, Nov. 12.

If you are in need of pastoral care while he is away, please contact the Elder on Call: Judy Melchore at 908-479-4052.

Session Notes – October 16, 2023

- We opened our meeting together with the lighting of the Christ candle and devotions led by Elder Jon Cantagallo-Rohm.
 - Laurie Winans was approved for membership. Laurie will be received as a new member by reaffirmation of faith on Sunday, October 29.
 - The Nominating Committee will present the following nominations at the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 17:
 - Deacons: Mabel Cook, Rosie England (2nd Term), Jacqueline File
 - Elders: Cindy Bowman, Kathy Montgomery (2nd Term)
 - Denise DeMasi will be our Ruling Elder Commissioner at the Presbytery Meeting on Tuesday, November 14. (The Presbytery of the Highlands has 5 stated presbytery meetings a year.)
 - Pastor Stephen will be attending the Presbyterian Church Moderators' Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, November 9-12. (Judy Melchore will be the Elder on Call.)
 - Our next session meeting will be on Monday, November 20.
 - Upcoming Pulpit Supply Schedule:
 - October 22: The Rev. Dr. Steven Shussett
 - October 29: The Rev. Dr. Bruce Main
 - November 12: Laura Choi
 - Treasurer's Report:
As of September 30, we have a year-to-date deficit of \$1,668 in our General Fund Budget.
 - As we concluded our meeting, we committed to praying for one another and our church, lifted up our joys and concerns, and closed with the Lord's Prayer.
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Saturday, Dec. 2: Help is needed for the “**Hanging of the Greens**” at 9:00 a.m. This is a time where we prepare our sanctuary for the upcoming Christmas season. The Fellowship Committee will provide coffee, tea, juice, and bagels. For more information, please email Ed Ham at ehamjr99@gmail.com

Sunday, Dec. 10: Special music will be offered by harpist Alison Simpson during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Sunday, Dec. 17: There will be a brief **Congregational Meeting** after the 10:30 a.m. worship service to elect Deacons and Elders for the coming term.

Sunday, Dec. 24: **Christmas Eve Service** of Lessons and Carols at 7:00 p.m. We will celebrate Holy Communion and special music will be offered during this service.

Sunday, Dec. 31: **Pajama Sunday** during the 10:30 a.m. Christmas Sunday worship service. There will be no Sunday School.

Stewartsville Presbyterian Church – November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7 pm Deacons Meeting 7 pm AA	2	3 8 am Friday Devotional Group	4
5 9:20 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service with Holy Communion 6 pm AA	6	7	8 7 pm AA	9 11:30 am Adult Lunch Group, Williams Restaurant 7 pm Grange	10 9:30 am Needlecraft Group	11 10 am Samplemakers
12 9:20 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service 6 pm AA	13	14	15 7 pm AA	16	17 8 am Friday Devotional Group 9:30 am Fiber Arts	18
19 Stewardship Sunday 9:20 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service Pot Luck Lunch after Worship Service 6 pm AA	20 7 pm Session Meeting	21	22 7 pm AA	23 Happy Thanksgiving!	24 Church Office Closed	25
26 9:20 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service Time for Fellowship after Worship Service 6 pm AA	27	28	29 7 pm AA	30		