



ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

PEOPLE OF CHRIST MAKING A DIFFERENCE

October 2021 Newsletter

Called Congregational Meeting

On Oct. 10th, at 9:45 AM there will be a called Congregational Meeting. During this meeting the congregation will vote to extend the call of Senior Pastor to Pastor Jason T. Antley. We will also be voting on the pay package that will be presented from our Finance Committee. An absentee ballot is available for those unable to attend. This ballot must be completed by Oct. 7th at 4 PM. Please contact Tonya if you need a ballot!



Trunk or Treat is back!

On October 27th we will plan to have Trunk or Treat in the big parking lot like we did last year! Everyone seemed to really enjoy this outdoor event so why reinvent the wheel!!! We really want to make this a fun evening for our kids and plan to have a food truck or two available for dinner!

We need adults and families that are willing to come and hand out candy.

If you don't feel safe handing things directly to the children, you could always bring a table and set your treats there for the kids to pick up. We ask that you give your treats directly to the kids or have your treats spaced out on a table so the children can pick them up. We still aren't quite ready for them to dig in big buckets!

We would LOVE for you to decorate your trunks and/or dress up yourself!

Please let Shannon know if you plan to provide candy by Monday, October 25th!! Our plan is to have food trucks here at 5 PM which is when you can begin setting up your area! We plan to start at Trunk or Treat at 6 PM and should be done by 6:45 PM. Vehicles will be parked in every other space to help with crowding.



Join us for a Red Cross Blood Drive on
Wednesday, October 6th from
2 PM-7PM!

Why give? Hospitals continue to experience great demand for blood as patients who previously deferred care during the pandemic present with more advanced disease progression requiring increased transfusions.

Why else should you give? It costs nothing but your time, it's a gift that can never be repaid, you get snacks, AND you will potentially be saving a life!

Please visit
redcross.org
and enter
sponsor code
SSLC!



Way to go Emma!

Emma Loney, who now resides in FL (daughter of David and Suzy Loney and granddaughter of Bob and Linda Pittman) joined "Be The Match" 8 years ago and hadn't given it much thought since then. This Spring however, she matched with a woman fighting Acute Myeloid Leukemia and needed bone marrow and stem cells. The process was intense - filled with blood tests, doctor appointments, and weekly shots! But on May 26th, Emma was able to donate the bone marrow and stem cells that were desperately needed!

Emma is a huge inspiration to all those that know her and is truly living out the calling that Christ has given us - Love Your Neighbors as Yourself!

We are super proud of you Emma Loney!!

If you'd like more information on bone marrow donation, visit

[Donate Marrow or Blood Stem Cells | Be The Match](#)

Chat N Chew information for October

Date: October 21, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Flight Deck, 109 Old Chapin Road, Lexington

Host: Glenn and Jeannette Neeley

Please join our group for good food and wonderful fellowship with your church family.

Sign up on the church's bulletin board! Hope that you can join us!

A light lunch is offered in the Social Hall at 11:45 AM.

The cost of the lunch is \$5. Enjoy lunch and then worship with us at our 12:30 Eucharist Service.



Preschool Ministry Happenings

Oct. 2021



**BOOK
FAIR**
COMING SOON!

**What's the best gift you can give a child?
The gift of reading!**

Join us for our annual Scholastic Book Fair beginning Oct. 11-14 This is a great time to purchase holiday gifts for children and grandchildren. If you cannot make it to the preschool to look at books, we will also have the online book fair running simultaneously for more choices than what we have in stock. All books ordered online will be delivered to the preschool for distribution.

The online link is: <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/ststephenspreschl>

Open House Time!



Fall Open House will be Wed., Oct. 13 beginning at 9am. Parents will visit their child's classroom and have a chance to see what the children have been doing since school began.

Say Cheese!



School Pictures will be made on Wed., Oct. 6 beginning at 8:45 am at the church. Doors will open at 8:45 and parents will bring children to school early to have their picture made. After pictures, please drop off your child at the preschool door.

It's story
TIME

@your library

Lexington County Library presents Story Time to our preschoolers on Monday, Oct. 18.

Please consider purchasing a Poinsettia which will be used during the December 19th, 24th, and 26th worship services. The poinsettias will cost \$15.00 each and can be placed in honor of or in memory of your loved ones or friends. If you would prefer, gifts can be made to the Debt Retirement Fund in lieu of poinsettias. A minimum donation of \$15.00 to Debt Retirement is requested.

Order deadline is Sunday, Oct. 31st.

You can either mail in or drop off your order form, along with your payment, at the church office.



THANK YOU:

From the bottom of my heart I want to thank you all for the cards, calls, emails, concern and prayers during my recent illness and hospitalization.

I extend a special thanks to Pastor Jason for keeping in touch. The Agape Sunday School Class and other individuals have also been most thoughtful.

I will forever be grateful for our church family and the special prayers that helped me through this most difficult time. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Sincerely,
Martin Arant

The ***Blessing of the Animals*** will be October 3rd at 3:00 PM. All animals are welcome! If you can't bring your pet, bring a picture!

Please bring dog or cat food to donate to Mission Lexington!



St. Stephen's Grief Group

Are you dealing with grief? You are not alone! Grief is experienced by so many people and in so many ways -- physical, emotional, and spiritual. Do you need a place to know that you are not alone, to affirm that what you are going through is a part of the journey of grief, to take a break from the loneliness, to be supported as you share your story and support others as they share theirs, and/or to find some hope in the midst of your struggle? If so, St. Stephen's will be starting a grief group on Sunday, November 7th (Time and Place TBD), where we will provide a safe environment for you and others to come and share their stories, to find comfort and support, and to share the hope given to us by God. If you would like to sign up please contact Pastor Jason.



MISSION LEXINGTON UPDATE

Our Easter to Reformation food drive continues with 8,438 lbs. toward a goal of 5,000 lbs. between now and Reformation Sunday. Food total for the year is 12,329 lbs. Our goal for the year is 15,000 lbs.

Please place your food donations in the food barrel next across from the elevator in the admin wing or in the container outside the Men's Sunday School Classroom.

All food items and pet food are being accepted.

Mission Lexington is also in urgent need of plastic bags. Bring your used plastic or paper bags to the church and Mr. Ron will deliver to Mission Lexington.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation toward the purchase of food, please make your check payable to St. Stephen's. In the remarks section write for Food purchase Mission Lexington.

Remember even one can of food will feed someone who is hungry

Thank you again for your support.
Point of contact:

Ron Redd 803-360-0241
Rredd7848@gmail.com.

Needed items:

Canned Fruit
Canned Chicken
Beef Stew
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Mac & Cheese
Pork & beans
Chili
Canned Vegetables
Rice
Canned Soups
Coffee
Oatmeal
Grits
Dog food/Cat food
Sealed silverware sets
(from carryout)


**Mission
Lexington**

Lutheran Men

Please join us Monday,
October 18, 2021, at 7:00 pm in
the social hall for fellowship and a
meal.

Pastor Jason will be our guest
speaker.

Lutheran Men is open to Men of all
ages. Point of contact: Ron Redd
Rredd7848@gmail.com
803-360-0241.



Committee of 100: How would you
like to be a part of bringing Jesus Christ
into someone's life? Actually it could be
really simple – by becoming a part of
the Committee of 100 which is
composed of members who contribute a
special \$100.00 in a given year to help
support newly organized mission
churches in the SC Synod as they
struggle to become self-supporting.
St. Stephen's has led the way in this
program since 1980 – having 79
members in 2020. Please consider this
stewardship opportunity. Over
\$19,000.00 was distributed to mission
churches in 2020. The Make your check
to: Committee of 100 – drop it in the
offering plate or give it to Ron Redd and
he will handle the details. POC Ron Redd
803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com.



We have resumed our Prime Time Luncheons once each month. Since lunch is being prepared each Wednesday before the WE! service, we are going to try a different day of the week to gather!

Mark your calendars and join us on the third Tuesday of the month - **October 19th at 11:45 AM** for a Halloween themed luncheon!



Please sign up on the Prime Time bulletin board so we know how many folks to expect.

First Communion Class

A first communion class will be offered by Pastor Jason on Sunday, October 3rd at 12:30pm. We will eat lunch and then delve into the day's curriculum and activities! If you plan to attend please RSVP to the church office or Pastor Jason so that we can know how many to expect for lunch. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Jason!



Holiday Hams and Turkeys for Mission Lexington

Nurture and Outreach is seeking donations to purchase turkeys and hams to donate to MISSION LEXINGTON during the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday periods. Please prayerfully consider donating \$20.00 toward the purchase of hams and turkeys. Write a check to St. Stephen's and in the remarks section of your check, please mark it for Ham and Turkey purchase and place it in the offering plate. We will make a ham and turkey purchase close to Thanksgiving and another purchase closer to Christmas. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Point of Contact-Ron Redd: 803-360-0241
Rredd7848@gmail.com.



JCREW

Sunday, October 24th to Sease Farms Corn Maze

All 1st-5th graders are invited to meet at the church on Sunday, October 24th at 1:30 pm to go to the Sease Farms Corn Maze. The church bus will be available. If you'd rather not ride the bus you can just meet us at Sease Farm. The church will cover the cost of admission. J-Crewers will only need money for a snack/drink while we are there. We will be back at the church at 4:00. Any parents that could chaperone would be extremely helpful! Please RSVP to Pastor Jason by Wednesday, October 20th! Hope to see YOU there!

Sr. Youth Event **(9th-12th grade)**

Join us for a trip to Scarowinds on Saturday, October 9th. The gates open at 7 PM. We will plan to leave the church at 4:30 PM, get a bite to eat on the way up, and then be there when the gates open! Cost is \$40. That covers your ticket and dinner. Bring extra money for snacks inside the park. Please RSVP by Oct. 6th so we can get our tickets. Friends are welcome! We will plan to be home by midnight!

Jr. and Sr. Youth Event

Join us on Oct. 17th for the Marty Party - a fun afternoon celebrating all things Lutheran! We will go to Zion Lutheran and join with folks from other churches for fun games and fellowship! We will leave the church at 3 PM and return around 5:30 PM. RSVP by Oct. 14 if you plan to go!

Jr. Youth Event **(6th-8th grade)**

Join us Oct. 30th for dinner and a scary walk through the woods at Stutman Hollow! Plan to meet at the church at 6:30 PM. We will get dinner and then head towards Leesville. We should be back between 8:45 PM and 9 PM. Please bring \$15 cash to cover admission. Dinner will be paid for!

Community Groups:

A place where gentleness and respect are present

A place where judgement is absent

A place where trust has been established

A place where youth can raise their questions, share their doubts, voice their concerns, and vent their frustration

A place where youth can be comfortable being who they are and have fun

It's a safe place

It's a God space

We NEED more parent involvement!! Please let Shannon know if you'd like to help plan events for a certain group!

6th grade:

Oct. 24th - Join Mrs. Shannon as we head to Escapology in Columbia. We will enter The Lost City and work together to find the treasure! RSVP to Mrs. Shannon by Oct. 21st. We will leave the church at 2 PM! Cost is \$20

Shannon Burnett

7th and 8th grade:

Oct. 10th - Let's head to Stars & Strikes for some bowling fun! Plan to leave the church at 1:30 PM! Cost is \$15.

We will be back around 4PM! Please RSVP by Oct. 8th so we have a head count.

Stephanie Jones (ricejones@gmail.com)

9th and 10th

Oct. 10th - Join us for Pumpkin Carving and hotdogs in the Grove (the front area under the trees at the church!) at 4 PM. RSVP to Mrs. Michele by Oct. 7th so we have a head count!

Michele Head (michelehead54@yahoo.com)

11th and 12th:

Oct. 10th - Join us for Pumpkin Carving and hotdogs in the Grove (the front area under the trees at the church!) at 4 PM. RSVP to Mrs. Tonya (tonya@sslc.org) by Oct. 7th so we have a head count!

Tonya Reynolds and Julie Tworzyanski

Bereavement Meals and Refreshments

As many of you know, WELCA Circles provide a tremendous ministry to bereaved families by preparing a meal or refreshments after a funeral. Over the past few years, we have seen a decline in Circle growth and an increase in funerals. If you are a lady, not involved in a Circle, that would be willing to help out with meals/refreshments, please reach out to Kelley Mintz who is the Bereavement Coordinator. Her contact information is: kelley.mintzsc@gmail.com; (803) 609-4971

Your help would be greatly appreciated!!

Saints and Sinners Sunday School Class

The Saints and Sinners Class encompasses adults of all ages. There is no regular curriculum. Instead we watch movies, read books, and engage in open conversation about any number of topics. Don't have a Sunday School class that feels like home? We'd love to have YOU with us! Our schedule is as follows:

Sunday, October 3rd – Frankie San – Chapters 4, 5, & 6

Sunday, October 10th – Congregational Meeting – No Class

Sunday, October 17th – Lutheridge Sunday – No Class

Sunday, September 26th – Frankie San – Chapters 7 & 8

We are currently doing a book study about the life, mission, and ministry of Frankie San. Thanks to the generosity of Tom O'Brien the books for the book study have already been purchased and are ready for pickup. You can pick up your copy from the church office or get it during class.

Here's a synopsis of the book: **This is Frankie San's story.** Born in Tokyo to a Buddhist family, Frankie San's childhood was marked by sickness and quarantine, parental divorce, and fighting for Japan in WWII at 14 years of age. Experiencing major depression, he tried to end his life – but God had a better plan.

Light filled Frankie San's heart and soul after an American missionary introduced him to Jesus Christ. Through miraculously opened doors, Frankie San traveled to the United States to attend seminary. He overcame cultural and language barriers and prayed for direction for his future. Direction came in the form of busses filled with prisoners.

When Frankie learned where the busses took their prisoners, he surprised the director with his request to visit the prison and perplexed him when he wanted to remain. What happened next was incredible love confirmed by action, as Frankie literally believed and followed through on those famous words from Scripture: *Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me* (Matthew 25:40).

Frankie San's life and testimony is unique, heartwarming, and inspiring. You'll be challenged to love those who can give nothing back, to truly trust Christ as you follow Him, and to persevere despite overwhelming odds. If it's not too late for prisoners on death row, it's not too late for you and me. *Follow me*, said Jesus, *and I will make you fishers of men.*

SSLC Living Faith Group

This group is comprised of anyone who would consider themselves a "young adult". The definition of "young adult" is broadly defined and within the group encompasses folks of varying ages and family contexts. In short, if you want to join a group of folks that enjoy fellowship, living out their faith, and being active with other members of the congregation please come and join us!

Lutheridge Worship, Picnic, and Apple Picking – Sunday, October 17th

On Sunday, October 17th the group will leave the large parking lot at 8:30am for Lutheridge in Arden, NC. At Lutheridge we'll have a worship service with Holy Communion and then a picnic (both will be held under a pavilion awning that has chairs and picnic tables).

Afterwards we'll head to a local apple farm. Please RSVP to Pastor Jason by Wednesday, October 13th if you are planning to come. Folks that attend are asked to bring their own picnic lunch, chairs, blankets, etc. that you'll need for your family to be most comfortable. Hope to see YOU there!

Family Friendly Halloween Party – Friday, October 22nd at 6pm

Jamie & Tripp Brunson will be hosting a Halloween Party for the Living Faith group on Friday, October 22nd! It is sure to be a SPOOKTACULAR event and you don't want to miss it!! The whole family is invited to come and enjoy good food, fellowship, a bouncy house, hayrides, games, and other fun activities! Costumes are highly recommended to add to the fun! Last but not least, each family is asked to bring a donation of canned goods for Mission Lexington (formerly LICS). So mark your calendars now and make sure to RSVP to Pastor Jason by Wednesday, October 13th so we'll know how many to expect! We hope to see you there!!!

Operation Christmas Child – Wednesday, Nov 3rd at 6pm

This is the seventh year that we will pack boxes for Operation Christmas Child after our WNL! Meal. Look for information on what to bring to put in the boxes and then show up to help pack boxes for children in need across the world! Dinner will be served at 5:15pm that night with box packing following around 6pm.

Christmas Party – Saturday, Dec 4th from 6-9pm

Everyone is invited to mark their calendars for our 7th Annual Living Faith Christmas party on Saturday, December 4th from 6-9pm! More details will be forthcoming!

Order of St. Stephen's

	8:30 Service	11:00 Service
October 3rd	A – Connor Fink	A – Aaron Head
	C – Cameron Moore	C – Zachary Head
	BB – Katie Moore	BB – Sullivan Hayes
Oct. 10th	A – Noah Oxley	A – Cole Catalanotto
	C- Andrew Tworzyanski	C – Paul Waites
Oct. 17th	A – Bia Oxley	A – Gavin Gaskins
	C – Alaina Wenzel	C – Gage Gaskins
Oct. 24th	A – Jamie Wessinger	A – Sam Taylor
	C – Sophie Dickey	C – Megan Griffin
Oct. 31st	A – Weston Hill	A – Susannah Howell
	C – Kaidyn Glover	C – Elizabeth Kolb
	BB – Drake Glover	BB – Bryce Windham
	TB – Abby Burnett	TB – Sophie Taylor
	TB – Carlee Tworzyanski	TB – Emery Jones

October Love Offering:

Newberry College

Newberry College is 1 of 23 Lutheran (ELCA) colleges in the United States of America and the only Lutheran (ELCA) college in South Carolina. As members of the SC Synod of the ELCA it has been and will continue to be a part of our mission to support Newberry College both with our prayers and our treasures. St.

Stephen's has a special scholarship fund where moneys are awarded to members of our congregation who attend Newberry.

For the month of October we encourage donations over and above your regular giving to be designated to Newberry College for the purposes of supporting the

St. Stephen's Koch Congregational
Scholarship Fund.

Congregation Council Members:

Class of 2021

Paulette Shealy (803) 465-0942
Steve Fowler (803) 360-5605
Ivan Black (803) 513-7486
Sandy Dawkins (803) 606-1072
Mary Elizabeth Windham (803) 351-6572

Class of 2022

Craig McFarland (803) 360-7310
Evelyn Temple (706) 436-3052
Brian Paeth (803) 529-6117
Stephanie Jones (803) 606-3814
Mike Brittingham (803) 760-3219

Class of 2023

Michael Jebaily (843) 617-3147
Allison Van Cleef (803) 447-3002
Brian Lackore (803) 351-2585
Mike Burgess (803) 238-7426
Jessica Maxheimer (803) 422-5747

Youth Representatives:

Abby Burnett and Carlee Tworzyanski

Mary Keisler, Treasurer (803) 960-9155
Bill Mathias, Treasurer Emeritus

Flowers for October

3	Pat Caughman
10	Whitney Egan and Sidney Brock
17	Jim and Marty Nantz
24	Tom and Brenda Janson
31	OPEN

***If you'd like to provide flowers on Oct. 31st, please let Tonya know!*

Ushers for October **October 3rd and 17th**

8:30 - Eric Wessinger, Ivan Black, Pat Bowen, Bill Carroll, Aaron Rawl,
Otis Rawl, Vernon Hester

11:00 - Randy Huber, Alon Cox, James Renwick, Roy Welch

October 10th, 24th, and 31st

8:30 - Sandy Shealy, Reuben Eargle, Ron Redd, Steve Fowler

11:00 - Randy Huber, Alon Cox, James Renwick, Roy Welch

Lay readers

	8:30 AM Worship	11:00 AM Worship
3	Van Skipper	Jessica Maxheimer
10	Steve Fowler	Jennifer Howell
17	Jane Kennedy	Ken Howell
24	Karen Thouvenot	Stephanie Jones
31	Connie Hinson	Johnnie Peechatka

Communion Assistants

	8:30 AM Worship	11:00 AM Worship
3	Jane Kennedy	Jamie Early
10	Neil Brown	Cathy Mathias
17	Craig Wheatley	Jamie Early
24	Marian Fowler	Peggy Sherman
31	Steve Fowler	Benjie Rhoad

Office Hours:

8 AM-4 PM Monday - Thursday

To Reach us:

Phone: 803-359-6562
FAX: 803-951-0738
Crisis Care Line: 803-808-6471
Website: www.sslc.org

Pastor

Jason T. Antley Jason@sslc.org

Pastor for Welcome & Visitation

Dennis R. Bolton retrev61@gmail.com

Director of Family Life Ministries-

Shannon Burnett Shannon@sslc.org
359-4175

Parish Administrator

Tonya Reynolds Tonya@sslc.org
359-6562/808-6489

Director of Music

Bailey Parker Bailey@sslc.org

Assistant Director of Music/

Organist
Tyler Meade Young Tyler@sslc.org

Preschool Director

Beth Haggard Beth@sslc.org
803-359-4369

Sexton

Eric Abramson Eric@sslc.org

Organist Emeritus

Sylvia Looney

Congregation Council Officers

President - Mike Brittingham
Vice President - Steve Fowler
Secretary - Allison Van Cleef
Treasurer - Mary Keisler
Treasurer Emeritus - Bill Mathias

Mission Statement:

Gathering all generations to nurture
Christ-like discipleship

Our Vision:

To be a place of hope

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

119 North Church Street

Lexington, SC 29072

place

stamp

here

"Return Service Requested"

=====

For our guests our Ministry includes. . .

Sunday School: Classes for Nursery age-adults; meets at 9:45 each Sunday

Wednesday Night Live! (WNL!): Intermediate Ringers (6th-12th grade) meet at 5 PM; meal at 5:15PM; Confirmation class, Adult class, Cherub and Children's Choirs meet at 6 PM; Tone Chimes meet at 6:30 PM

The Balcony Choir: Rehearsal on Wednesday at 7:00PM

Handbell Choir: Rehearses on Wednesday at 6 PM in the balcony

Wings of Worship: Our liturgical dance group meets at 7:00 PM on Wednesdays

Prime Time Adults: Adults 55 and older meet monthly for food, fellowship and fun. This group is a wonderful mix of people who also travel for day and overnight trips.

Junior High (6th, 7th & 8th grades) & Senior High Youth (9th - 12th grades): meet regularly for planned activities

J-Crew: (1st - 5th graders) meet monthly for planned activities

Lutheran Men: Meet on the 3rd Monday each month at 7:00PM in Social Hall for a meal and informative speaker

WELCA: Various groups of women meet monthly, commit themselves to grow in faith, affirm their gifts, and support one another in ministry and action.

Preschool: An extension of our ministry for our church & the community for children 12 months to 4 years of age. Class hours are 9:00AM - 12:00Noon with extended care 12:00 Noon to 2:00PM. Early bird drop-off is also available Contact Beth Haggard.

Living Faith: This group is comprised of folks somewhere between our Sr. High Youth and our Crossroads group, encompassing people of varying ages and family contexts. Activities alternate between adult only and family friendly.