

**Our Stewardship of Attendance last week:** (8:30) 101 (11:00) 109  
Wednesday Eucharist Service: (12:30) 44

General Offering Totals for 2021: \$677,746.85  
Expenses to date 2021: \$672,692.90

Freedom to Imagine Campaign: Pledged: \$1,039,288.19 from 129 Families  
Received: \$322,766.42  
Loan Balance: \$972,000.00

**Our weekly offerings are about returning back to God a portion of what he has first given us. We are able to be generous givers when God is at work in our hearts. St. Stephen's Activities for this week include:**

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| TODAY     | <b>8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary &amp; Online) – All Saints Sunday</b><br>9:45AM: Sunday School for All Ages<br><b>11:00AM: Worship Services (Sanctuary)</b><br>2PM: Grief Group (Social Hall)<br>4PM: 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade Community Group   |
| Monday    | 9AM: Preschool<br>12:30PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall)  |
| Tuesday   | 9AM: Preschool   |
| Wednesday | 9AM: Preschool<br>11:45AM: Wednesday Lunch (Social Hall)<br><b>12:30PM: Eucharist Service (Sanctuary &amp; Online)</b><br>5:15PM: WNL Dinner<br>6PM: Confirmation Class (Agape Classroom); Adult Bible Study (Social Hall);<br>Cherub Choir; Children's Choir; Adult Handbells (Balcony)<br>6:30PM: Tone Chimes (3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom)<br>7PM: Wings of Worship (Gym Stage)<br>7:30PM: AA/AI-Anon meetings (Social Hall/Parlor) |
| Thursday  | Church Office Closed<br>9AM: Preschool<br>7PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall)  |
| Friday    | 6PM: Living Faith (Gym)  |
| Saturday  | 8AM: Via De Cristo (Sanctuary & Social Hall)   |
| Sunday    | <b>8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary &amp; Online) – WELCA Sunday</b><br>9:45AM: Sunday School for All Ages<br><b>11:00AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary)</b><br>2PM: Grief Group (Social Hall); Jr. & Sr. Youth<br>4PM: Youth Committee Meeting   |

**The Spirit of St. Stephen's Weekly for November 7 – November 14, 2021**

Congregation Council approves causes to be featured monthly. **November - Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary** is 1 of 8 ELCA Seminaries and the only seminary found in the Southern region of the United States. The campus is found on North Main Street in the Eau Claire community of Columbia. LTSS has been educating and preparing leaders for the church since 1830 and continues that mission today. As members of the SC Synod of the ELCA it has been and will continue to be a part of our mission to Support the seminary both with our prayers and our treasures. Please consider designating any donations over and above your regular giving to LTSS to help support the institution, the students, and their ministry present and future.

**Hospitalized:** Ronald Slice, Still Hopes Rehab.; Clint Lowery, Lexington; Terry Lowery, Home

**Join us for the Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> Eucharist Service** held at 12:30PM in the sanctuary to enhance your weekly worship experience and to share God's Word in a unique, shortened, but spiritual time of worship. Lunch will be served at 11:45am in the social hall.

**Installation:** Please join us for the installation service for Senior Pastor Jason T. Antley on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM in the sanctuary. A reception will follow in the gym.

**Lexington County 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Veteran's Parade** is today at 3PM on Main Street. Mr. Murray Price will be the Grand Marshal for the parade.

**Congratulations** to those who completed their **First Communion Class** this year: Carsyn Jae Antley, Peyton Reese Antley, Ellison Tate Crapps, Caroline Margaret Hooker, Dylan Jake McMurray, Ariel Reese Rabern, Chase Holden Rabern, Edyn Marie Shealy, and Jocelyn Marie Summerall. They will receive their first communion at either the 8:30 or 11:00 worship service today.

**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 **TODAY at 2pm** in the social hall, 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:** Our end of the year food drive is underway with 890 lbs. of food collected. Our goal is to collect 5,000 lbs. between now and the end of the year. The total food collected for this year is 14,744 lbs. Our goal for 2021 is 15,000 lbs. Please place your food donations and plastic or paper bags in the food barrel next to the elevator in the admin wing or in the box in front of the men's class room. The following items are the most needed: Canned Fruit, Beef Stew, Canned Chicken, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Mac & Cheese, Canned Vegetables, Chili, Pork & Beans, Canned Soups, Rice, Grits, Sugar, Flour, Oatmeal, Applesauce, Cereals, Coffee, Dog & Cat Food. The following holiday items are needed too: stuffing mix, instant potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, candied yams, and chicken/turkey/beef broth. Remember even one can of food will feed someone who is hungry. **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. 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. Ron Redd: 803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com.

**J-Crew:** All 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to meet at the church on Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup> from 4:30-6pm to roast hot dogs and smores. Contact Pastor Jason by Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> to RSVP! Thanks and hope to see YOU there!

**9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Community Group:** Join us for a game night and pizza **TODAY** from 4-6 PM. We will also be planning events for future community group gatherings! Don't miss out! Michele Head (michelehead54@yahoo.com)

**Jr. (6th-8th) and Sr. (9th-12th) Youth Event:** Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM  
Join us for a fun afternoon focusing on THANKFULNESS! We will watch some short videos, play some games, and take time to be together and connect! Bring a snack to share! RSVP to Mrs. Shannon by Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>!

**Lutheran Men:** Please join us Monday, Nov. 15, at 7:00 in the social hall for a meal, fellowship, and a program presented by fellow member John Mackintosh. The topic will be our 2<sup>nd</sup> Pastor Rev. Dr. Ernest L. Hazelius (1777-1853). He is the only Pastor with a historical marker in our cemetery. Come and bring a friend! Ron Redd 803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com

**Living Faith:** After a long week what could be better than gathering with our family and friends in our PJ's for pizza and a movie? On Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm come and enjoy a night of fun, food, fellowship, and entertainment St. Stephen's Living Faith style. Please let Pastor Jason know if you'll be able to attend by Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> so he can get the correct amount of pizza. Hope to see YOU there!

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

**Chat N Chew:**

Date: November 18, 2021

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Sun Ming Restaurant located at 7501 St. Andrews Road (Irmo)

Host: Jim and Marty Nantz

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!

**The holiday season is upon us!** What better way to get into the Christmas spirit than visiting the **Christmas Arts and Crafts Market** at the SC State Farmer's Market. This event takes place Saturday, Nov. 13th and Sunday, Nov. 14th. The church bus will be heading to the market on **Saturday**. We will plan to leave the church at 8:30 AM and return around 12:30 or 1 PM. If you'd like to ride the bus, sign up on the bulletin board across from the Men's Sunday School Classroom. We need a minimum of 10 folks to take the bus. There will be a \$2 cost to cover gas.

**Prime Time:** Please join us on **Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 AM** for a Thanksgiving luncheon! The turkey will be provided! Please bring a side to share! We will also have some adorable Pilgrims and Indians joining us! Please sign up on the Prime Time bulletin board so we know how many folks to expect.

**Operation Christmas Child:** It's November so that means that it's Operation Christmas Child shoebox packing time! It's such a wonderful cause and even when things are different than they used to be, I want to make sure that we have as many options as possible to help make this Christmas extra special for a child in need. Last year, we did the online option and it was very successful considering the Pandemic. This year, I will continue to offer the online option <https://build-a-shoebox.samaritanspurse.org/view/9b069e19-156c-4c71-ab2a-6adbe63df101>. But I will also have a display of shoeboxes in the hallway for you to grab on your way out today so that you and your family can pack a shoebox together. Be sure to include \$9 for shipping (cash or check - made out to Samaritan's Purse). There is a list of items to give you some ideas and the labels to include as well. Be sure to drop off your shoebox to the main office no later than **November 15<sup>th</sup>**. Ashely Lackore will be delivering them to Lexington Baptist Church where they will be shipped out to children all over the world and the best part about it is that they will learn the Gospel of Jesus Christ through your kind gift. SPREAD JOY to a child in need this holiday season! If you have any questions - contact Ashely Lackore - 803-446-1303.