



ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
PEOPLE OF CHRIST MAKING A DIFFERENCE

August 2022 Newsletter

*We ask for your prayers and presence
at the Service of Installation
for Pastor Ralph Hill*

ST. STEPHEN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
119 N. CHURCH STREET, LEXINGTON, SC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2022
3:00 PM IN THE SANCTUARY

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW



Campers will perform the musical, ***Splash Kingdom***, on Sunday, August 7th at the 8:30 AM and 11 AM worship services.

Don't miss out!

2022 Mission Trip Presentation

Don't miss out on hearing more about our trip to Kentucky! We have so much to share and look forward to seeing you.

Sunday, August 14th at 9:45 AM in the Gym!



St. Stephen's 101: For New Members (and Seasoned Ones Too!)

The Pastors and Staff at St. Stephen's will be offering a class for new members and anyone else who would like to attend. There will be three sessions. Classes will be held during the Sunday School hour in the Sanctuary. The schedule is as follows:

Sunday, September 11th – Welcome and History of St. Stephen's

Pastor Jason will lead this session that will focus on getting to know a little about each other and then learning some of the history of our congregation.

Sunday, September 18th – Lutheranism 101

Pastor Ralph will lead this class that will focus on introducing the basics of Lutheranism and how that is lived out at St. Stephen's.

Sunday, September 25th – Getting Plugged In

Our church staff will team together to introduce you to all the basics of being a member of St. Stephen's and all the different opportunities you will find to be "People of Christ Making a Difference" within and outside the walls of our congregation.

Sunday, October 1st – Welcoming of New Members

On Sunday, October 1st we will welcome new members at both services as the culmination of our time together.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the church office. RSVP's are encouraged so we can know how many to plan for. We are looking forward to having a fun time of community building, learning, and fellowship! Hope to see YOU there!

Join us for our monthly luncheon on the 3rd Tuesday - August 16th - at 11:45 AM. We will do a covered dish luncheon. Please sign up on the Prime Time bulletin board and note what you will be bringing!

Shannon is beginning to look at plans for the fall and would like to get the Prime Time Committee back together to plan! Please join Shannon in the conference room on Tuesday, August 9th at 10 AM to talk about plans for the fall! Anyone is welcome!



Adults 55(ish) 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.

Looking for information
about events, meetings, council minutes, or recorded worship services?
Check out St. Stephen's website at SSLC.org for everything St. Stephen's!



WE! Lunch

A light lunch is offered in the Social Hall at 11:45 AM on Wednesdays. The cost of the lunch is \$5. Come enjoy lunch and then worship with us at our 12:30 Eucharist Service.

Summer Reading Program --The Summer Reading Program sponsored by the Church Library continues through August 7 and is open to ages 18 months to the 6th grade. Parents may read books to young non-readers. Prizes will be awarded on August 14 to each child completing the program by reading 10 non-chapter books, five chapter books, or a combination. The library is located on the 2nd floor of the Educational Building down from the Balcony Choir. Hours are 9:30-11:00 each Sunday. Check out all the early reader and chapter book series and make reading a part of your summer fun!



MISSION LEXINGTON UPDATE

Our Easter to Reformation food drive is underway with 3,065 lbs. toward a goal of 6,000 lbs. Food total for the year is 6,595lbs. Our goal for the year is 18,000 lbs.

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

School is out and the children are not getting their snack packs from school. Please prayerfully consider donating the following items:

Assorted cereal packages, Cheese crackers, pudding packs, microwaveable snacks, assorted chip packages, granola bars, trail mix packages.

Mission Lexington also needs plastic bags. Bring your used plastic 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

Needed items:

Canned Fruit
Canned Chicken
Beef Stew
Peanut Butter & Jelly
Mac & Cheese
Pork & beans
Chili
Canned Vegetables
Rice
Canned Soups
Coffee
Oatmeal
Grits
Sugar
Flour
Applesauce
Breakfast cereals
Chicken/Turkey/Beef Broth
Gravy mixes
Dog food/Cat food

Thank you again for your support.

Point of contact:

Ron Redd
803-360-0241


**Mission
Lexington**

Lutheran Men

Please join Lutheran Men for a meal Monday, August 15, 2022, at 6:00 as we welcome Pastor Ralph Hill to St. Stephen's and as our guest speaker. Pastor Hill will share his vision for ministry at St. Stephen's.

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, August 7th –
The Energy Bus by Jon Gordon –
Introduction and Chapters 1-7

Sunday, August 14th –
The Energy Bus by Jon Gordon –
Chapters 8-16

Sunday, August 21st –
The Energy Bus by Jon Gordon –
Chapters 17-24

Sunday, August 28th –
The Energy Bus by Jon Gordon –
Chapters 25-29

Due to quantity restraints when purchasing on Amazon, it would be most helpful if everyone would order their own book. Here's the link to the page on Amazon to purchase the book: [The Energy Bus: 10 Rules to Fuel Your Life, Work, and Team with Positive Energy: Gordon, Jon, Blanchard, Ken: 9780470100288: Amazon.com: Books](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B000APR010)

Here's a synopsis of the book: "The Energy Bus, an international best seller by Jon Gordon, takes readers on an enlightening and inspiring ride that reveals 10 secrets for approaching life and work with the kind of positive, forward thinking that leads to true accomplishment at work and at home. Jon infuses this engaging story with keen insights as he provides a powerful roadmap to overcome adversity and bring out the best in yourself and your team. When you get on *The Energy Bus* you'll enjoy the ride of your life!"

Love offering for August

Lutheran Campus Ministry is a

Lutheran ministry for students, faculty, staff, and others on college campuses around the nation, not just a ministry for Lutherans. Its

mission is to invite people in academic settings to engage more deeply with the teachings of Jesus

Christ and the community that bears his name, so that they can discover and fulfill their vocation as

disciples. In South Carolina we have 17 ministry sites that reach out to over 20 different colleges and universities. In recent years

funding for Lutheran Campus Ministry has declined substantially and they could use our support to help them continue their important mission.

HELP!! Fall Sunday School Teachers Needed!

As we begin to transition back to a normal Sunday School schedule we need teachers! Please let Shannon know if you are willing to teach. She is hoping to have several teachers for each class so that you can rotate Sundays! We need teachers for:

2's-5K

1st-5th

6th-8th

9th-12th

Curriculum will be supplied!



Stewardship Moment

During the month of August we will be focusing on getting people "Plugged Back In" at St. Stephen's. By using the QR code below, you will find our Time and Talent form for 2022-2023! There are many opportunities to get involved at St. Stephen's! We know the more involved people are, the better our church runs! Please take some time to look over these opportunities and see where we can best use your gifts! If you already volunteer, please plan to continue (we NEED you and APPRECIATE you)! We'd love for everyone to submit your Time and Talent form so we know your intent to serve! Please plan to fill out your Time and Talent form electronically by August 15th or you can pick up a paper copy and place your completed forms in the Time and Talent basket in the Narthex!



SSLC Confirmation Ministry Calling all Confirmands!

St. Stephen's Confirmation Orientation

Date: Wednesday, September 7th

Time: 6:00 pm

Confirmation is just around the corner! If your child is a rising 7th or 8th grader we'd love to include them in our plans for our Confirmation ministry this year!

To make sure that we have an awesome start to the year please plan on attending an orientation for all parents and students. Our gathering will take place in the Saints and Sinners Sunday School Classroom at 6pm.

If you have questions about whether your youth should be participating or any other questions about the program, please contact Pastor Jason. See you there!



Blessing of the School Year:

On August 14th at both services, children and young adults are encouraged to bring their book bags to church as we ask God to bless the 2022-2023 school year.



Training for

Order of St. Stephen's

What? Learn how to serve St. Stephen's by being an acolyte (5th and 6th graders), crucifer (7th-10th graders), or banner bearer (11th graders)

Who? For anyone that needs to be trained

Where? Meet in the Sanctuary

When? August 7th at 9:45 AM

There will be an additional training scheduled in September!

**God's Work Our Hands
Service Day –
Sunday, September 11th**

This day has been reserved to participate in the ELCA's Annual "God's Work Our Hands" Day. We will be going out as a congregation to do yardwork for members of our congregation who need our assistance. If you would like to participate please let me know by Sunday, September 4th so we can get organized. Also, if you have tools, mowers, trimmers, cutters, etc. that you can bring that would be greatly appreciated as we will be splitting up to hit multiple projects at once.

Visitation teams:

Once upon a time, prior to COVID, we had some amazing folks that were willing to go and visit our members that couldn't make it to church. Shannon is ready to get this ministry started up again!

If you would like to be part of our Visitation Ministry, please let Shannon know. We will have an organizational meeting the beginning of September so we can get organized and get going!!

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!

**Lake Outing – Sunday, August 14th
at 3pm at the Taylor's Home**

On Sunday, August 14th everyone is invited for a "family friendly" event at Jon and Lauren Taylor's house at the lake. The lake outing will start at 3pm and will last through dinner time. Fried Chicken will be provided. Those who plan to attend are asked to: 1) RSVP to Pastor Jason by Wednesday, August 10th, 2) bring a drink, side, and dessert enough to share, and 3) bring your own towels, swimming gear, tanning lotion, games, etc. to enjoy the afternoon. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Pastor Jason! Hope to see YOU there!

**God's Work Our Hands Service Day
– Sunday, September 11th**

This day has been reserved to participate in the ELCA's Annual "God's Work Our Hands" Day. More details will be available soon but please go ahead and put this date on your calendars so you can plan to take part!

**Don't miss out on this month's
Debt Retirement Cooking Class
with Chef Andy**

August 25th at 6 PM

Email Shannon (Shannon@sslc.org) to reserve your spot!

Cost is \$50 per person

RALLY DAY – August 21st!

It's hard to believe that summer is coming to a close and school will be back in session soon!

We are looking forward to getting back to our regular Sunday School classes!

At our annual Rally Day, the kids can meet their teachers, enjoy some activities, and eat a yummy breakfast!

There will also be sign-ups for those that are interested in Cherubs Choir, Children's Choir, Tone Chimes, Intermediate Handbells, and Wings of Worship.

Please join us in the gym at 9:45 AM. Fall Sunday School begins August 28th. Registration forms are available now.

Please help us plan for your child by turning in completed forms to Shannon Burnett or using the QR code to complete registration on-line!



wednesday night *LIVE!*

Our WNL! programs are resuming September 8th!

Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders will meet, Wings of Worship (1st grade and up) will rehearse, and an Adult Bible Study will be taught by Pastor Ralph.

Our Children's Choir, Cherubs, and Tone Chimes will also be meeting but the times have not been set.

There will be a meal from 5:15-6 PM in the Social Hall.



Lutheridge Day Camp 2022

Another fantastic year of Day Camp is in the books!! We had 48 very active campers and 6 wonderful counselors! A big thank you to Tonya Reynolds, Pastor Jason, Alex and Abby Burnett, and Lucas Reynolds for helping to facilitate, feed, drive, clean-up, and help make the week a success!!!

Youth 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 parent involvement!! Please let Shannon know if you'd like to help plan events for a certain group! We hope to offer a 6th grade group, a 7th and 8th grade group, a 9th and 10th grade group, and an 11th and 12th grade group! We'd like to kick off our Community Groups in September. Just looking for 1 activity a month!! Reach out to another parent and partner up to help provide this important ministry!

Sr. Youth (9th-12th)

We are going to try once again to take a trip to *The Big Mo*.

Mark your calendars for Friday, August 5th. This will be our last official event for our Class of 2022 Seniors!

We will eat at Shealy's and then head to the outdoor movie screens.

We will need to carpool!

Please RSVP to Shannon by August 4th so that we have a headcount and to make sure we have enough transportation! Dinner is covered but please bring \$10 cash for the movie and money for snacks (or you can bring snacks along!)

Jr. and Sr. Youth Kick-off

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 21st and head to Shannon's house for some Slip N Slide Water Kickball, food, and fellowship!

Plan to arrive at 5 PM, bring a towel, and wear something that can get wet!

Pick-up will be at 7 PM.

Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided!

We will talk about the upcoming year and see what activities we want to plan!

Please RSVP to Shannon by Thursday, August 18th if you plan to come!

Order of St. Stephen's

	8:30 AM	11 AM
August 7th	A – Ryan Kennedy	A – Susannah Howell
	C – Alaina Wenzel	C – Zachary Head
	BB – Lauren Wenzel	BB – Abby Burnett
August 14th	A – Weston Hill	A – Mary Beth Stafford
	C – Carlee Tworzyanski	C – Megan Griffin
August 21st	A – Connor Geary	A – Elizabeth Kolb
	C – Katie Dawkins	C – Emery Jones
August 28th	Lutheran Men's Sunday	Lutheran Men's Sunday

Chat N Chew for August

Marty and Jim Nantz will be the hosts for August. Please check the Chat & Chew bulletin board for more details!!



This is Us is a new group that is meeting once a month (the last Thursday) at a local restaurant. This group is made up of parents of high school and college aged kids and if you fall into this category and would like more information, please reach out to Shannon Burnett.

Congregation Council Members:

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 Cleaf (803) 447-3002
 Brian Lackore (803) 351-2585
 Mike Burgess (803) 238-7426
 Jessica Maxheimer (803) 422-5747

Class of 2024

Cathy Mathias (803) 238-4458
 Eric Wessinger (803) 917-8771
 Gregg Mills (803) 210-9761
 Melissa Rawl (803) 359-2909
 Sheridan Perry (803) 808-0534

Youth Representatives:

Abby Burnett and Carlee Tworzyanski

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

Flowers for August

Aug 7	Dottie Slocomb
Aug 14	Agnes Corley
Aug 21	Cathy Mathias
Aug 28	C-Anne and Danny Able

Ushers for August

August 7th and 21st

8:30 - Eric Wessinger, Ivan Black, Pat Bowen, Bill Carroll, Aaron Rawl, Vernon Hester, Deon Fink, Blaine Richardson, Chad Geary

11:00 - Randy Huber, Alon Cox, James Renwick, Roy Welch, Brian Paeth, Doug Harper

August 14th and 28th

8:30 - Rueben Eargle, Sandy Shealy, Ron Redd, Steve Fowler, Jim Nantz, Daryl Hooker, Adam Tworzyanski

11:00 - Otis Rawl, Gregg Mills, Hunter Mills, Connor Mills, G Kolb, Mike Burgess, Myra Strock, Manning Burgess, Roy Windham

Lay readers

August 7	Danny Able	Jennifer Howell
August 14	Ginger Macaulay	Ken Howell
August 21	Bill Carroll	Stephanie Jones
August 28	Lutheran Men's Sunday	Lutheran Men's Sunday

Communion Assistants

August 7	Marian and Steve Fowler <i>Communion at the rail</i>	Myra Strock & Jamie Early <i>Communion at the rail</i>
August 14	Sandy Shealy	Larry Long
August 21	Ebony Bowers	Myra Strock
August 28	Paul Austin	Peggy Sherman

Recyclers

Aug 7	Tina Prond-Bennett
Aug 14	Jennifer Howell
Aug 21	Gary and Julie Angus
Aug 28	Sarah Kolb

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

Ralph Hill Ralph@sslc.org

Director of Family Life Ministries

Shannon Burnett Shannon@sslc.org
359-4175

Parish Administrator

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

Interim Director of Music

Michael Ballard

Interim Organist

Juyeon Kim

Preschool Director

Kimberly Peterson Kimbely@sslc.org
803-359-4369

Organist Emeritus

Sylvia Looney

Congregation Council Officers

President - Michael Jebaily
Vice President - Mike Brittingham
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

place

119 North Church Street

stamp

Lexington, SC 29072

here

"Return Service Requested"

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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 Kimberly Peterson.

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.

This is Us: This group has children in high school and college and gets together once a month for fellowship and food.