

**Our Stewardship of Attendance last week:** (8:30am) 136 (11am) 127  
Wednesday Service: (12:30pm) 77

General Offering Total for 2026: \$140,887.63  
Total Expenses for 2026: \$172,988.91

**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:**

TODAY	<b>8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary-Online)</b> 9:45AM: Sunday School for all ages <b>11AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary)</b> 2PM: Jr. Youth (Three Fountains Rink & Fun Center)
Monday	8AM: Preschool 12:30PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall) 6PM: McMurray (Gym) 6:30PM: Adult Handbells (Balcony) 8PM: Taylor (Gym)
Tuesday	7:30AM: Sr. Youth Breakfast (Social Hall) 8AM: Preschool 9:05AM: Men's Bible (Social Hall) 12:30PM: ROMEO's (Old Mill Brew Pub) 6PM: Lackore (Gym) 6:30PM: Women's Bible Study (Agape Classroom)
Wednesday	8AM: Preschool 10:15AM: Women's Bible Study (Sr. High Room) 11:45AM: Lunch (Social Hall) <b>12:30PM: Lenten Wednesday Service (Sanctuary-Online)</b> 5PM: Dinner (Social Hall); Cherub Choir (Choir Room) 5:25PM: Carol & Treble Choirs (Choir Room) <b>6PM: Lenten Worship Service (Social Hall)</b> 6:10PM: Choir Chimes (Choir Room) 6:45PM: Wings of Worship (Gym Stage) 7PM: Adult Choir (Choir Room) 7:30PM: AA/Al-Anon meetings (Social Hall/Parlor)
Thursday	8AM: Preschool 12:30PM: Ladies Who Lunch (Carolina Wings) 6PM: Lackore (Gym) 6:30PM: Crossroads (Mediterranean Café) 7PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Friday	
Saturday	8AM: Via De Cristo (Social Hall)
Sunday	<b>8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary-Online)</b> 9:45AM: Discipleship Sunday (Social Hall) <b>11AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary)</b> 12:30PM: First Communion Class (Office Conference Room) 5PM: Mission Trip Fundraiser Trivia Night (Gym)

**The Spirit of St. Stephen's Weekly for March 1 – March 8, 2026**

**Congregational Council** approves causes to be featured monthly. **March - Operation Inasmuch** is a national nonprofit that employs proven models to motivate, train, and equip churches to move more congregants out of the sanctuary seats and into the streets to serve the neediest in their communities. A day is selected each year by the SC Synod in the month of April on which to mobilize Lutherans around the state in completing projects that will serve the "least of these" around us. All love offering donations in March will go towards helping to finance the projects we undertake on that special workday. To find out more please see Pastor Jason.

**Join us for our Lenten Wednesday Service, March 4<sup>th</sup>** at 12:30pm in the sanctuary to enhance your weekly worship experience and to share God's Word. Lunch will be served at 11:45am in the social hall.

**Blood Drive:** St. Stephen's will be hosting a blood drive on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up and give the gift of life!!

**First Communion Class** will be offered by Pastor Jason and Pastor Ralph next Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm. We will eat some pizza together and then delve into the day's curriculum and activities! If you plan to attend, please RSVP to the church office no later than Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> so that we can know how much pizza to order. If you have any questions, please contact one of the pastors!

**March is National Nutrition Month.** Kathy Bernard, who is a member of our church and is also a Registered Dietitian, will be holding a free nutrition presentation on March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the social hall. Get some tips on how to achieve a healthier lifestyle by incorporating some of the "12 Fixes to Healthy". These commonsense solutions are beneficial to everyone. Please RSVP to Kathy via phone or text: 803-738-6710 or email: nutrition4mbh@gmail.com. Attendees will have a chance to win some fun prizes.

**Our 2026 Flower Calendar is available for sign up!** Please find the calendar in the narthex. Available dates include March 29, April 26, May 24, June 14, August 30, September 6, October 11, & 25.

**Mission Lexington:** Our Christmas to Easter food drive is underway with 1,275 lbs. collected. Our goal is to donate 2,000 lbs. of food between now and Easter Sunday on April 5. Our yearly donations are 1,275 lbs. toward a goal of 8,000 lbs. Mission Lexington needs the following items: **Please No Glass Jars** laundry detergent, canned fruit, beef stew, canned chicken, peanut butter & jelly, mac & cheese, chili, pork & beans, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned soups, rice, coffee, grits, sugar, flour, oatmeal, applesauce, breakfast cereals, dog & cat Food (Dry & Wet), laundry detergent, and pasta. If you prefer to make a monetary donation toward the purchase of food, please make your check payable to St. Stephen's and in the remark section put Mission Lexington. Thank you again for your support. Ron Redd 803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com

**Jr. High Youth** will be going to Three Fountains Rink and Fun Center **TODAY!** We will leave the church at 2pm and return around 5pm. Cost of admission and roller skates will be covered. Please bring money for snacks and games.

**Sr. High Youth:** Join us for breakfast Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30am. RSVP to Mrs. Shannon by Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup> with your Chick-fil-A order!

**Prime Time:** Be sure to sign up for the St. Patrick's Day luncheon which will be held Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:45am in the social hall.

**Lutheran Men:** will meet Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the social hall. Marshall Hurlbert, President of South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission will be our guest speaker and talk on his vision for SCLMM this year. Please join us. We would love to have you. Point of Contact: Ron Redd 803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com

**Preschool:** It's time to register for the 2026-2027 preschool year! Registration is open to everyone. Please spread the word! Register online at SSLC.org. We would love to have you or your loved ones join our Preschool Family! Contact Julie@sslc.org if you have any questions.

**Crossroads** is a group comprised of folks that fall in between our Living Faith group and our Prime Time adults. Join us on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Mediterranean Café (327 W. Main). (dutch treat) If you are interested, please contact Pastor Ralph through the office and/or sign up on the sign-up sheet located outside the narthex.

**Music: Ladies Who Lunch** will meet on Thursday, March 5 at 12:30pm at Carolina Wings. Ladies please contact Susan with your rsvp. **Romeos** will meet on Tuesday, March 3 at Old Mill Brew Pub at 12:30pm. Let Susan know if you can attend. **Music, Art, Faith Camp** will take place this summer June 8-12. Camp is for children going into 5K – those who are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade. For registration forms contact Susan@sslc.org. Adults are needed to help so please let Susan know if you are willing. Camp includes singing, drumming, recreation, art, and daily visits from symphony players to introduce children to instruments. This camp is open to the community. **Oh, Jonah!** is coming!!! Save the date for the children's choir musical on Sunday afternoon, April 26 at 3:00pm. You'll hear from the sailors, the angels, the captain of the ship, the King of Nineveh, and of course Jonah and the whale. A reception will follow the production.

## **2026 Mission Trip Fundraiser!**

**\*\*ALL TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>\*\***

**Step 1:** Create a team of 6 people (or less). Could be church friends, friends outside of church, circle members, choir members, Lutheran Men, Prime Time, Living Faith - You get the picture! Just get a group together for a fun night and an opportunity for bragging rights! We'd love to have every group in the church represented with at least one table!

**Step 2:** RSVP to Shannon with the names of your teammates and show her the money.

**Step 3:** Show up on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm. Dinner will be served, and trivia will begin at 6pm. There will be 4 rounds with 10 questions in each round.

For \$120 you get dinner for up to 6 adults at your trivia table, 4 mulligans, and a doubler! Included in the price are 4 "mulligans" and 1 "doubler". You can use a mulligan to skip a question and may use one per round/per table. The doubler may be used once to double your score for one round.

We will also have bidding baskets, raffle items, and an opportunity to fund the need.

Don't want to participate in the trivia competition? For \$10 you can enjoy dinner, fellowship with other folks, and still help raise money by bidding on the baskets and buying raffle tickets. See Shannon for tickets.

Have kids 10 or younger but still want to participate in Trivia Night? For \$10 per child, bring the kids, feed them dinner at 5:30pm and at 6pm they can go with our older youth to play while you play!

All money raised will be used towards our 2026 Mission Trip to Lake Traverse, SD.

**Come and take a chance at being the inaugural Trivia Night Champions!  
All tickets/trivia tables must be paid for in advance.**

### **Upcoming Events:**

Sunday, March 8: Trivia Night Fundraiser for Mission Trip

Wednesday, March 11: Blood Drive

Tuesday, March 17: LifeLine Screening

Thursday, April 2: Maundy Thursday Services 12:30pm, 5:30pm, 7pm

Friday, April 3: Good Friday Services 12:30PM, 5:30pm, 7pm

Saturday, April 4: Easter Eggstravaganza 10am

Sunday, April 5: Easter Services 6:30am, 8:30am, 11am; Lutheran Men's Breakfast 7am

Sunday, April 19: Young Family Night

Sunday, April 26: Children's Musical Performance 3pm