

Our Stewardship of Attendance last week: (6:30) 93 (8:30am) 307 (11am) 322
Wednesday Service: (12:30pm) 64

General Offering Total for 2026: \$267,188.69
Total Expenses for 2026: \$264,265.21

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	8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary-Online) 9:45AM: Discipleship Sunday School (Social Hall); New Member Class (Sanctuary) 11:AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary) 1PM: Addy (Social Hall) 5PM: Jr. & Sr. Youth (Gym)
Monday	8AM: Preschool 12:30PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall) 6PM: McMurray (Gym) 8PM: Taylor (Gym)
Tuesday	7:30AM: Sr. Youth Breakfast (Social Hall) 8AM: Preschool 9:05AM: Men's Bible (Social Hall) 6PM: Lackore (Gym)
Wednesday	Gym Closed 8AM: Preschool 11:45AM: Lunch (Social Hall) 12:30PM: Wednesday Eucharistic Service (Sanctuary-Online) 7:30PM: AA/AI-Anon meetings (Social Hall/Parlor)
Thursday	8AM: Preschool 5:30PM: Chat-N-Chew (Ocean View Seafood) 6PM: Lackore (Gym) 7PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Friday	8AM: Preschool
Saturday	8AM: Via De Cristo (Social Hall)
Sunday	8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary-Online) 9:45AM: Sunday School for all ages; New Member Class (Sanctuary) 11AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary) 12:30PM: Council Meeting (Office Conference Room) 5PM: Young Family Night (Social Hall/Gym)

The Spirit of St. Stephen's Weekly for April 12 – April 19, 2026

Congregational Council approves causes to be featured monthly. **April - Relay for Life**
More than just a fundraising walk, Relay for Life brings together passionate supporters who embody the American Cancer Society vision to end cancer as we know it, for everyone. This volunteer-led experience unites communities to celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer, and raise funds for advocacy, research, and patient support to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer. Love offering donations made in the month of April will go towards the fundraising efforts of the St. Stephen's Relay for Life team. If you would like to join the team or find out more, please see Shannon Burnett.

Hospitalized: Billy Huckabee, Agape Hospice House

Join us for our Wednesday Eucharistic Service, April 15th 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.

Carlee Tworzanski will be going to Bolivia to serve as a Summer Missionary Intern at Bolivia Life Center which is a home for neglected, abused, and abandoned boys (ages 3-18) for 2 months this summer. Carlee must cover her plane fare, housing, and food costs (approx. \$3,500) and all expenses while she is away. This is an UNPAID internship but after serving last year with a mission team, she feels called to go back. Carlee and her family will be hosting a meal next **Sunday, April 19th** and she will be speaking at both church services. Meals will be ready for take-out or eat-in after the 8:30 & 11:00 services. All proceeds from the meal will go to Carlee's travel expenses and we will take up a Love Offering as well. When she returns, she will share her experiences with us. Let's show Carlee how much we support her heeding the call to be the hands and feet of Christ out in the world!

Thank you to Brant Taylor, Ivan Black, Grant Black, Judy Koon, Drew Welch, Jenny Carter, Shannon Burnett, and Tonya Reynolds for helping to complete the renovation of the church parlor. The beautiful paintings were painted by our very own Drew Welch! Stop by the parlor and look at the lovely transformation.

Our 2026 Flower Calendar is available for sign up! Please find the calendar in the narthex. Only 3 dates are still available August 23, September 6, December 20.

Mission Lexington: 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

Lutheran Men will meet Monday, April 20 at 6:30pm in the social hall. Marshall Hurlbert, President of South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission will be our guest speaker and will speak 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

Chat and Chew: Join your church family on Thursday, April 16th at 5:30pm at Ocean View Seafood (1000 Knox Abbott Dr.). Hosts: Heyward and Christie Addy. It is sure to be a fun dinner filled with fellowship! Sign up on the bulletin board so we know how many to expect.

Jr. & Sr. High Youth: Join Mrs. Shannon **TODAY** at 5pm in the gym for some ice cream yumminess and help plan Youth Sunday.

Family Night If you consider yourself a part of our Young Adult/Young Family/Living Faith groups we will have our Quarterly Family Night next Sunday, April 19th from 5-7pm. Our Jr. and Sr. High Youth and Mrs. Shannon will provide care for the children.

Prime Time: Join us on Thursday, April 23rd for a walking food tour of Columbia. We will experience the city one bite at a time! You will learn about the Capital City, as well as try the local cuisine from 5-7 of the best locally owned restaurants. The tour will start at the State House steps at 2pm. It is a walking tour along Main Street in Columbia, and it ends around 4:45pm. The cost is \$40/person. Tickets will be ordered once you have signed up and paid.

This is Us is planning to meet April 30th at 6:30pm at the Lexington Amphitheater to see the Root Doctors and enjoy food from the vendors on site. Please let Shannon know if you plan to attend!

Music: May Music Midday is fast approaching. Join us on May 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 12:15pm for a catered lunch prepared by Chef Andy Marchant, followed by a free concert in our sanctuary. We'll start the season with soloist Tina Stallard and pianist Sharon Rattray presenting "Sacred and Sublime", featuring a variety of solo pieces for soprano. More information will be forthcoming regarding lunch reservations. **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. **Music, Art, Faith Camp** will take place this summer June 8-12. Camp is for children going into 5K – those who are entering 6th grade. For registration forms contact Susan@ssl.org. We are searching for adults and youth helpers so please let Susan know if you are willing and able. Camp includes singing, drumming, recreation, art, and daily visits from symphony players to introduce children to instruments. This camp is open to the community. **Romeo's** will meet for lunch on Tuesday, April 21. **Ladies Who Lunch** will meet on Tuesday, April 28. All are welcome! Children's Choir parents are reminded of the dress rehearsal for **Carol and Treble choir** singers on Saturday, April 25 at 10:00am. **Cherub choir** dress rehearsal will be on April 25 at 11:30am.

Operation Inasmuch Service Day: On Sunday, May 3rd, St. Stephen's will participate in a day of outreach called Operation Inasmuch. We are going to reach out to folks in the congregation who need some spring-cleaning yardwork. All skill levels are needed!! Anybody with yard equipment is encouraged to bring it with them! Please contact Pastor Jason if you are interested in serving those in need in our congregation!

Lexington High School Students in Action (SSLC Youth)

Paws for a Cause will run until May 1st. All items donated will be given to the Animal Protection League of South Carolina to help better the lives of animals!! Donation boxes will be set up in the church office and the front porch at 120 Montelena Drive. The items needed are dog/cat food, leashes, collars, treats, paper towels, and cleaning supplies. No animal should go hungry!!! Help us keep kennels clean and tails wagging!!!! Contact information: Elizabeth Kolb, 803-638-2475, elizabethkolb888@gmail.com.

Drive for the Deployed will run until Sunday, April 26th. Items being collected are non-perishable food items, personal care/hygiene items, batteries, playing cards, flashlights, pens, notebooks, etc. These donations will be made into care packages for deployed military. Donation boxes are in the church office and narthex. Thank you so much for your consideration and support, Sophie Taylor.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, April 26: New Member Sunday; Children's Musical Performance 3pm
Tuesday, May 5, 12, 19, 26: May Music Midday 1pm
Sunday, May 10: Graduation Recognition & Youth Sunday
Saturday, May 23: Confirmation Banquet
Friday, May 29: St. Stephen's Night at the Blowfish