

**Our Stewardship of Attendance last week:** (8:30am) 142 (11am) 113  
Wednesday Service: (12:30pm) 58

General Offering Total for 2026: \$279,753.19  
Total Expenses for 2026: \$289,199.25

**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; New Member Class (Sanctuary) <b>11:AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary)</b> 12:30PM: Council Meeting (Office Conference Room) 5PM: Young Family Night (Social Hall/Gym)
Monday	8AM: Preschool 12:30PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall) 6PM: McMurray (Gym) 6:30PM: Lutheran Men (Social Hall); Adult Handbells (Balcony) 8PM: Taylor (Gym)
Tuesday	8AM: Preschool 9:05AM: Men's Bible (Social Hall) 6PM: Lackore (Gym)
Wednesday	8AM: Preschool 11:45AM: Lunch (Social Hall) <b>12:30PM: Wednesday Eucharistic Service (Sanctuary-Online)</b> 5PM: Dinner (Social Hall); Cherub Choir (Choir Room) 5:25PM: Carol & Treble Choirs (Choir Room) 5:30PM: Jr. High Youth (Jr. High Room) 6PM: Adult Bible Study (Agape Classroom); Confirmation Class (Saints and Sinners Classroom) 7PM: Adult Choir (Choir Room) 7:30PM: AA/AI-Anon meetings (Social Hall/Parlor)
Thursday	8AM: Preschool 6PM: Lackore (Gym) 7PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Friday	8AM: Preschool
Saturday	10AM: Children's Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary) 10:30AM: Tworzyanski (Gym)
Sunday	<b>8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary-Online)</b> 9:45AM: Sunday School for all ages; New Member Class (Sanctuary) <b>11AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary)</b> 3PM: Children's Musical (Sanctuary); Wessinger (Gym)

**The Spirit of St. Stephen's Weekly for April 19 – April 26, 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.

**Christian Sympathy** is extended to Sarah Huckabee and her family upon the death of her husband, Billy Huckabee and to Ryan McCall and his family upon the death of his father, Larry McCall. May the peace and comfort of God's Word be with them assuring them of the knowledge and truth of the Resurrection.

**Join us for our Wednesday Eucharistic Service, April 22<sup>nd</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.

**Carlee Tworzyanski** 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 **TODAY** and she is 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!

**Please contact the Church Office** (tonya@sslc.org) if you have recently sent the church a donation from LPL Financial. Please make sure to notify the church if you are sending a donation from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party. We don't receive any donor information. Thank you so much!

**Mission Lexington:** Our Easter to Reformation food drive is underway with 250 lbs. of food collected toward a goal of 5,000 lbs. of food between now and Reformation Sunday, October 25. Our yearly donations are 1,825 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

**Jr. & Sr. High Youth: TODAY** we will have Family Night (Big kids keep little kids). While parents have some time to catch their breaths and enjoy a kid-free meal, we will watch the kids. Depending on numbers we may venture to the park, so she needs lots of extra hands! We plan to meet at 4:45pm.

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

**This is Us** is planning to meet April 30<sup>th</sup> 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!

**Crossroads:** Join us Thursday, May 7 at 6:30pm for our next gathering at the Mediterranean Cafe (327 W. Main). We are a group comprised of folks that fall in between our Living Faith group and our Prime Time adults. Join us for a conversation starter, connection over a great meal (Dutch treat), and a devotion. Contact Pastor Ralph for details.

**Graduation Recognition Sunday:** High school and college graduations are right around the corner! Please let Mrs. Shannon (Shannon@sslc.org) know if you have a graduate and what their future plans are so we can honor them on May 10<sup>th</sup>!

**Music: Oh, Jonah!** It is next Sunday, 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. The Cherub, Carol, and Treble choirs will be participating. A reception will follow the production. 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. **May Music Midday** is right around the corner. 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. **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. We still have a few spaces available. Camp includes singing, drumming, recreation, art, and daily visits from symphony players to introduce children to instruments. This camp is open to the community. **Ladies Who Lunch** will meet on Tuesday, April 28. All are welcome!

**Operation Inasmuch Service Day:** On Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 next Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. 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