

Our Stewardship of Attendance last week: (8:30am) 132 (11am) 120
Wednesday Service: (12:30pm) 55

General Offering Total for 2026: \$295,707.04
Total Expenses for 2026: \$311,179.05

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: Sunday School for all ages; New Member Class (Sanctuary) 11:AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary) 3PM: Children's Musical (Sanctuary); Wessinger (Gym) 6PM: Sr. High Youth (Sr. High Room)
Monday	8AM: Preschool 12:30PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall) 6PM: McMurray (Gym) 6:30PM: Adult Handbells (Balcony) 8PM: Taylor (Gym)
Tuesday	8AM: Preschool 9:05AM: Men's Bible (Social Hall) 12:30PM: Ladies Who Lunch (Grecian Gardens) 6PM: Lackore (Gym)
Wednesday	8AM: Preschool 11:45AM: Lunch (Social Hall) 12:30PM: Wednesday Eucharistic Service (Sanctuary-Online) 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) 6:30PM: This Is Us (Lexington Amphitheater) 7PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Friday	8AM: Preschool 6PM: Relay for Life (Lexington High School)
Saturday	
Sunday	8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary-Online) 9:45AM: Sunday School for all ages 11AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary) 12:30PM: Operation Inasmuch (Social Hall)

The Spirit of St. Stephen's Weekly for April 26 – May 3, 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: Pat Caughman, Lexington Medical; Janette Hendrix, Home

Christian Sympathy is extended to John Lyon on the death of his mother, Marcine Thompson. May the peace and comfort of God's Word be with him and his family assuring them of the knowledge and truth of the Resurrection.

Join us for our Wednesday Eucharistic Service, April 29th 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.

THANK YOU SO MUCH, church family! I am blown away by your generosity, words of encouragement, and outpouring of love! Your contributions will enable me to cover the costs of my 2-month mission to Bolivia this summer! I am also excited to be able to further contribute, on behalf of St. Stephen's, to the needs of the boys at the Bolivia Life Center by supplying them with toiletries, vitamins, and first aid supplies. I am so incredibly grateful for each of your gifts and cannot wait to serve God's children in Bolivia. I look forward to sharing so many stories of His faithfulness with all of you when I return! Thank you for supporting me in this journey and helping me see it through! Sincerely, Carlee Tworzyanski

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 10th!

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 3rd party. We don't receive any donor information. Thank you so much!

Mission Lexington: Our Easter to Reformation food drive is underway with 380 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, May 18 at 6:30pm in the social hall. Mr. Mike Burgess will be our guest speaker. His topic will be "A Strong and Active Faith: The American Revolution at 250." Please join us. We would love to have you. Point of Contact: Ron Redd 803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com

Sr. High Youth: If you are going to Lake Traverse Reservation this summer, we will meet **TODAY** at 6pm. This is a mandatory meeting you can't miss! We will eat some pizza together and go over logistics for the trip!

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!

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.

Our annual St. Stephen's Night at The Blowfish will be Friday, May 29th! Tickets are \$12 each. We will all be seated together in the grandstand area which is covered. Information about the tailgate prior to the game will be forthcoming by email closer to event to all those who purchase tickets. May 17th is the last day to purchase tickets. If you have any questions reach out to Pastor Jason (Jason@sslc.org).

Music: TODAY IS THE DAY! Oh, Jonah! the musical will be presented this afternoon at 3:00pm in the sanctuary. We have 42 children participating and a whale who sings!! The Cherub, Carol, and Treble choirs will be making this musical come to life. Join us for a reception following the production. **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. Lunch is \$15.00 per person and reservations may be made by contacting Susan@sslc.org. **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@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 at 12:30pm at Grecian Gardens. All are welcome!

Operation Inasmuch Service Day: Next 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 TODAY! 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:

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