



ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday School Update:

After taking the summer off, our children's Sunday School classes will resume in September. Shannon needs teachers!

PLEASE let her know if you are willing to teach. Our goal is to have enough teachers to rotate so no one has to teach more than 1 Sunday a month. Curriculum is easy to follow and not much prep is needed.

Our 2nd Sunday Discipleship class (beginning Sept. 13th) will continue to meet in the Social Hall. Our focus this year will be Fruits of the Spirit. This class is intended to be for all ages, although little ones are welcome to go to the nursery and play with Mrs. Ree! Come join in the intergenerational fellowship, learning, and snacking!

TEACH
encourage
instruct
MENTOR
PRAISE
influence
GUIDE
INSPIRE

Important Events in August -

August 2nd -

Blessing of the School Year

August 9th -

Carlee Tworzyanski's Bolivia presentation

August 16th -

Order of St. Stephen's Training

August 23rd -

ELCA Youth Gathering Informational Meeting

Blessing of the School Year -

This Sunday, August 2nd, at both services, children, young adults, and teachers are encouraged to bring their book bags to church as we ask God to bless the 2026-2027 school year. We will also bless our preschool teachers, school staff, and administrators!



SSLC Preschool News

August Love Offering: Lutheran Campus Ministry

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 15 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.

WELCA Salad Supper and Business Meeting

Calling all St. Stephen's Ladies!

Please mark your calendars and come to the social hall on Tuesday, September 8th at 6:00 pm for a pot luck salad supper.

We will have a brief business meeting.

Dawn Corley will share storied pieces of silver related to South Carolina from the 18th and early 19 centuries.

Please bring your favorite salad to share.



The summer break is wrapping up, and the preschool is buzzing with preparations for another wonderful school year! Teachers are planning, participating in CPR/First Aid training, and beginning to get their rooms ready! Preschool families have been invited in for a Meet the Teacher morning event on August 18th. It's almost time to get back to the fun!

We are excited to welcome back returning staff as well as some new team members! We are fortunate to have these awesome educators on our Preschool Team this year:
Parents' Morning Out: Gina Horton, Ali Jackson
TWOs: Katie Donaldson, Amanda Taylor, Allison Yohnka, Laurie Anderson, Jen Serio
THREEs: Jenny Salado, Vicky DeMicco, Suzanne Jebaily, Ashley White
FOURs: Katy Wood, Casey Liscinsky, Hilary Miller, Elese Cegelis, Natalie Carter, Ree Harper
Floating Assistant: Marcia Youngblood

On August 19th, we will open the preschool doors for another First Day of the school year! We welcome your prayers for a smooth start and another successful school year!



Lunch is offered each Wednesday beginning at 11:45 AM in the Social Hall prior to our WE! Worship service .

The cost of lunch is \$5. Join us for food and fellowship before we worship at 12:30 PM.



Committee of 100:

How would you like to be a part of bringing Jesus Christ into someone's life? It could be really simple – by becoming a part of the Committee of 100 which is composed of members who contribute \$100.00 in a given year to help support newly organized mission churches in the SC Synod as they struggle to become self-supporting. St. Stephen's has led the way in this program since 1980 – having 75 members in 2025. All contributions are welcome. Please consider this stewardship opportunity. \$18,267.00 was distributed to mission churches in 2025. Please make your check to: Committee of 100 – place it in the offering plate or give it to Ron Redd and he will handle the details. Ron Redd 803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com.

Jr. High Youth Event:

Sunday, August 9th

Attention all 6th-8th graders:

It's time to jump into the year and there's no better place to do that than at the pool! We will head to the Fink's house for some swimming, planning, and snacking! Mrs. Shannon will drive the bus so please meet at the church at 1:30 PM. The Fink's are expecting us at 2 PM.

Please RSVP by Aug. 5th!

Wear your swimsuits, bring a towel, and ideas for what you want to do as a youth group this year!!



Sr. High Youth Event:

Sunday, August 30th at 4 PM

Attention all 9th-12th graders:

It's time to make plans and kick-off the year at Sophie and Sam Taylor's house. You can play in the lake, ride on the pontoon, and possibly grab a ride on the jet ski! We will provide food and drinks. You provide your own bathing suit, a towel, and fun ideas for this year's activities! Please RSVP by Aug. 26th. If you can't drive, and want to ride the bus, let Mrs. Shannon know!



Mark your calendars for the 1st Tuesday of each month as we will have breakfast at the church at 7:30 AM. First meeting will be Sept. 1st!

Order of St. Stephen's

	8:30 AM Service	11:00 AM Service
August 2nd	A – Shannon Burnett	A – Ben Brunson
	C – Gracen Geary	C – Thomas Brunson
	BB – Connor Geary	BB – Shannon Burnett
August 9th	A – Caroline Hooker	A – Henry Jebaily
	C – Katy Hooker	C – Jack Jebaily
August 16th	A – Shaun Wessinger	A – Stone Lewis
	C – Jaime Wessinger	C – Audrey Lewis
August 23rd	A – Ethan Kean	A – Carsyn Antley
	C – Luke Wenzel	C – Hudson Taylor
August 30th	Lutheran Men	Lutheran Men

WELCA Circle Meetings: All women of St. Stephen's are members of WELCA and warmly invited to engage with one of our five circles. Each circle offers wonderful opportunities centered around faith, fellowship, and service. Below are the monthly meeting times and key contacts for each circle. Please don't hesitate to reach out, we would love you to join us!

Lunch Belles, 1st Tuesday, 12:30pm at the Country Club of Lexington.

Peggy Sherman (sshe695063@aol.com)

Sunshine Circle, 1st Monday, 6:30pm at rotating hostess home.

Marty Nantz (no.1mimi@yahoo.com)

Circle 5, 1st Tuesday, 6pm in the church social hall or parlor.

Dawn Corley (charlestonsilverlady6@gmail.com)

Circle of Love, 2nd Tuesday, 6:30pm in the church social hall.

Suzanne Robinson (robinsons1@yahoo.com)

Circle 9, 1st Wednesday, 10:45 am in the church parlor.

Drew Welch (DrewRoyWelch@gmail.com)

MISSION LEXINGTON UPDATE

Our Easter to Reformation food drive continues with 2662 lbs. of food toward a goal of 5,000 lbs. of food between now and Reformation Sunday, October 25. Our yearly donations are 4237 lbs. toward a goal of 8,000 lbs.

Please note: NO GLASS JARS, PLEASE!

Mission Lexington needs the following items:

Canned Fruit	Beef Stew	Canned Chicken	Peanut Butter & Jelly		
Mac & Cheese	Chili	Pork & beans	Canned Vegetables		
Canned Soups	Rice	Coffee	Grits	Sugar	Flour
Applesauce	Oatmeal	Breakfast Cereals	Pasta	Cornmeal mix	
Dog Food (Dry & Wet)		Cat food (Dry and Wet)		Laundry Detergent	

Please place your food donations in the red food barrels next to the elevator in the admin wing or in the red barrels in front of the Agape Sunday School Class.

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.

Thank you again for your support. Point of contact: Ron Redd 803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com.

Flowers for August

August 2nd: Steve and Marian Fowler
August 9th: Agnes Corely
August 16th: Celeste Morgan
August 23rd: OPEN
August 30th: Cynthia Douglas

Recyclers for August

August 2nd: The Head Family
August 9th: The Taylor Family
August 16th: Gary and Julie Angus
August 23rd: Sarah and G Kolb
August 30th: Sarah and G Kolb

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Ushers for August 2nd and 16th

8:30 - Eric Wessinger, Ivan Black, Bill Carroll, Aaron Rawl, Vernon Hester, Deon Fink, Blaine Richardson, Chad Geary
11:00 - Alon Cox, Roy Welch, Brian Paeth, Doug Harper, Matt Martin, Heyward Addy

Ushers for August 9th and 23rd

8:30 - Reuben Eargle, Sandy Shealy, Jim Nantz, Daryl Hooker, Rick Logging
11:00 - Otis Rawl, G Kolb, Mike Burgess, Myra Strock, Roy Windham, George Mathias

August 30th - Lutheran Men's Sunday

LOVE & SERVE

August 2026 Lay Readers



	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
August 2	Lacy Geary	Shannon Burnett
August 9	Bobby Martin	
August 16	Christy Hooker	Sharon Paeth
August 23	Niane Szalwinski	Jamie Early
August 30	Lutheran Men	Lutheran Men

August 2026 Greeters



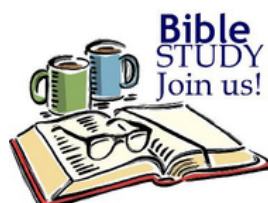
	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
August 2	Brant and Jennifer Taylor	Christie Addy
August 9	Neil Brown	Brittany Herring
August 16	Sandy Shealy	Sharon Paeth
August 23	Amy Shell	Bonnie Long
August 30	Lutheran Men	Lutheran Men

August 2026 Communion Assistants

	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
August 2	Ryan Johnson and Lacy Geary	Peggy Sherman and Myra Strock
August 9	Sandy Shealy	Ed Smith
August 16	Marian Fowler	Bill Cegelis
August 23	Paul Austin	Jamie Early
August 30	Lutheran Men	Lutheran Men



Tuesday Bible Study continues! Did you know there is a discerning group of folks who meet each Tuesday at 9:05 am in the Fellowship Hall? We gather to review the previous Sunday's lessons, impart personal life wisdom, and share faith moments we've experienced. Pastor Hill is the facilitator, but it is a group effort. Please consider joining this discussion time of "Table Talk" as we gather around the table to Read and interpret together the Scripture. Bring your bulletin & bible. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.



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 and everyone that needs a refresher



Where? Meet in the Sanctuary

When? August 16th at 9:45 AM

There will be an additional training scheduled in September!

OUR WNL! PROGRAMS ARE RESUMING SEPTEMBER 9TH!

DINNER WILL BE SERVED FROM 5-5:45 PM IN THE SOCIAL HALL.

5:00 – 5:30 P.M. CHERUB CHOIR (2-4 YEAR OLDS)

5:30 – 6:10 P.M. CAROL (5 YEAR OLDS-2ND GRADE) AND TREBLE CHOIRS
(3RD-5TH GRADERS)

5:30 - 6:00 P.M. JR. HIGH YOUTH (6TH-8TH GRADE)
(BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 16TH)

6 P.M. ADULT BIBLE STUDY; CONFIRMATION MEETING WITH PARENTS AND YOUTH

6:10 – 6:40 P.M. CHOIR CHIMES – 1ST-5TH GRADERS

6-7 P.M. CONFIRMATION (7TH AND 8TH GRADE)
(BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 16TH)

7:00 P.M. ADULT CHOIR RESUMING SEPTEMBER 9TH

**wednesday
night LIVE!**

Jesus and Women, by Kristi McLeland, will be the women's Bible study offered beginning in mid-August. Contact Kerri Brittingham if you are interested in participating!

(803) 318-4599
kerri.britt@proton.me



Lutheran Men:

Lutheran Men will meet in the social hall Monday, August 17, 2026 at 6:30 for a meal. After the meal we will make our final plans for Lutheran Men's Sunday (August 30) and for our First Responder Breakfast Friday, September 11.

Please join us. Click on the link for the Summer Edition of the SCLMM Epistle.
<https://mailchi.mp/a19d63f70ddd/2022-12-epistle-6755332?e=e78196607d>

Point of Contact Ron Redd 803-360-0241. Rredd7848@gmail.com.



Sunday School for Saints and Sinners:

The Saint and Sinner's Sunday School Class will be finishing its Summer session of viewing and discussing *The Chosen*. It has been a meaningful and insightful experience! Join the pastors as they co-teach during the new year. We will meet in the Saint and Sinners SS Class on the second floor. We will also participate in the *Second Sunday Discipleship* time on the second Sunday of each month in the Social Hall - with a focus on the Fruits of the Spirit. All are welcome! If you would like to begin a new Sunday school class or small group, please see the Pastors or Shannon. We would love to help form and support you with resources!

Crossroads –

The Crossroads Group September kick-off

Join Pastor Ralph on Thursday, September 3 at 6:30 pm at the Mediterranean Café as we return for a new year together! Join us each month on the first Thursday for get-to-know discussions, a devotion, and connection over a great meal (Dutch treat).

Crossroads is comprised of folks in their 50s-70s. Contact Pastor Ralph with any questions. Sign up near the narthex.

This is Us

Parents of high school and college age youth should plan to join together Aug. 20th at 6 PM.

We will meet at Hudson's Smokehouse BBQ.

We will have time to catch up and plan for the upcoming year. Please let Shannon know if you plan to come!

SSLC Confirmation Ministry Calling all Confirmants!

St. Stephen's Confirmation Orientation

Date: Wednesday, September 9th

Time: 6:00 pm

Confirmation is just around the corner! If your child is a 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!

Notes from Aloft:

Summer Worship Music

August 2 Madison LaFontan, cantor/soloist; Jack Jebaily, trumpeter

August 9 Steve Lunsford, cantor/soloist; Jason and Adam Ortiz, trumpeters

August 16 Shawn Lackey, cantor; Cole Catalanotto, cellist

*August 23 Lisa Catalanotto, flutist; Madison LaFontan, cantor/soloist
Adult Choir 11:00 a.m.*

*August 30 Steve Lunsford, cantor; Tina Stallard, soloist
Frances Webb, organist*

Fall Choir Schedule – all choirs will resume in September

*Monday 6:30 p.m. Adult Handbell Choir
(Resumes September 14)*

*Wednesday 5:00 p.m. Cherub Choir – 2 – 4 years old
5:30 p.m. Carol and Treble Choirs – K – 5th grade
6:10 p.m. Choir Chime Ensemble – 1st-5th grade
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir – youth and adults
(These choirs resume September 9.)*



Piano lessons, anyone? If you are an adult learner or a child and would like to take piano lessons, please contact Susan@sslc.org. It's never too late to take lessons and there are a few spots open in the fall schedule for new students. Lessons take place once a week at the church. Let Susan know if you are interested.

Hymn Sing is coming on Sunday, September 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Join us for a potluck supper followed by a Hymn Sing led by Ken Renfrow, from Bob Jones University. We'll sing some of your favorites while Ken plays. He is a marvel at the piano so you will not want to miss this evening!

PRIME TIME PLANS:

Prime Time Lunch at The Peanut Man

Thursday, August 13th

Leaving the church at 10:45 AM

The Peanut Man Cafe is a gourmet cafe with a great lunch menu, specialty coffee drinks & desserts. They also have a great sweet n salty gift shop full of handmade chocolates, nuts and confections. Please sign up if you plan to go! No cost to go; lunch is on your own.

Saturday, August 29th: The Gallery Tea Room

The Gallery Tea Room is located at 1104 Caldwell Street in historic downtown Newberry, South Carolina. The Gallery, where the tearoom is located, has works by local artists, gifts, jewelry, cards, children's items, furniture, gourmet foods, teas, and spices, as well as unique home décor. Join us for an afternoon of shopping and eating! We will plan to leave the church at 10 AM.

Please sign up by August 19th!

Cost is \$45 for assorted tea sandwiches, seasonal fruit, scones with Devonshire Cream, jam or curd, petite desserts and tea



August 27th: Lake Murray – Beneath the Surface (6 -7 PM)

Lexington County Public Library
5440 Augusta Rd.

Dive into an interactive presentation about the Jewel of South Carolina. Explore Lake Murray's layered history, discovering what still exists beneath the water's surface, and uncover how these treasures shape the gathering place it is today, sharing your own experiences and stories. Partnered with local diver William Roberts. If there is interest, the group can eat before at Señor Bird's (or somewhere close by). Those that plan to eat, will need to leave the church at 4:30 PM. Please sign up and place a check mark for your preference so Shannon knows your plans.

Congregation Council Members:

Class of 2026

Neil Brown (803) 238-6998
Matt Martin (803) 231-3047
Betsy McCall (803) 730-0570
Sarah Kolb (803) 931-2022
Stephen Lunsford (843) 343-5161

Class of 2027

Lucy Austin (803) 917-5757
Kerri Brittingham (803) 318-4599
Bill Galardi (803) 530-8418
Roy Windham (803) 507-7951
Lance Young (864) 557-0182

Class of 2028

Gail Felton (803) 312-2960
Christy Hooker (803) 429-3287
Nick Kean (843) 819-9558
Bobby Martin (803) 873-8404
Richard Shealy (608-3492

Youth Representatives:

Sophie Taylor, Margaret McCurdy

Mary Keisler, Treasurer (803) 960-9155

Attention Young Adults

On Sunday August 16th at 10:00 am, Pastor Ralph is inviting any Young Adults (20's/30's) for a brief input meeting in his office.

**We will gather to consider ideas/events to build community, nurture faith, and consider opportunities for fellowship this Fall. If you can't be there, just send a text or email with an idea. Refreshments will be served.
Hope to see you there!**



Office Hours:

8 AM-4 PM Monday - Thursday

To Reach us:

Phone: 803-359-6562

Website: www.sslc.org

Pastor

Jason T. Antley Jason@ssl.org

Pastor

Ralph G. Hill Ralph@ssl.org

Director of Family Life Ministries

Shannon Burnett Shannon@ssl.org

Parish Administrator

Tonya Reynolds Tonya@ssl.org
359-6562

Director of Music/Organist

Susan Wilson Susan@ssl.org

Preschool Director

Julie Tworzyanski preschool@ssl.org
359-4369

Organist Emeritus

Sylvia Looney

Congregation Council Officers

President - Matt Martin

Vice President - Stephen Lunsford

Secretary - Sarah Kolb

Treasurer - Mary Keisler

Mission Statement:

Gathering all generations to nurture
Christ-like discipleship

Our Vision:

To be a place of hope



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

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
119 North Church Street
Lexington, SC 29072

"Return Service Requested"

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For our guests our Ministries includes. . .

Sunday School: Classes for Nursery age-adults; meets at 9:45 each Sunday

Wednesday Night Live! (WNL!): A time for fellowship over dinner and then faith development through Confirmation and Adult Bible Study; Jr. High Youth (5:45-6:30 PM); Musical groups for children - Cherubs (5:00-5:30 pm), Carol and Treble Choirs (5:30-6:10 pm) and Choir Chimes (6:10-6:40 pm); Wings of Worship Liturgical Dance (6:45 -7:30 pm)

The Adult Choir: Rehearsal on Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Handbell Choir: Rehearsal on Monday at 6:30 PM

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 6:30PM 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 the ministry for our church & the community for children 15 months to 4 years of age. Class hours are 9:00AM - 12:00 Noon Early bird drop-off available

Prime Time: Adults 60 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. A monthly luncheon is held on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Crossroads: Compromised of adults between "This is Us" and "Prime Time" that get together for fellowship on the first Thursday of the month and for service projects throughout the year

This is Us: This group has children in high school and college and gets together the last Thursday of the month for fellowship and food.

Living Faith: This group is comprised of folks somewhere between our Sr. High Youth and our This is Us group, encompassing people of varying ages and family contexts. Activities alternate between adult only and family friendly.

Young Adults: This group is for young adults (college age and up) and newly married couples just starting out that will gather together to build community and offer opportunities for fellowship.

Ladies Who Lunch: Meets monthly for lunch

R.O.M.E.O. (Retired Ol' Men Eating Out): Meets monthly for lunch