Our Stewardship of Attendance last week: (8:30am) 189 (11am) 109
Wednesday Service: (12:30pm) 65

General Offering Total for 2026: $862,504.31
Total Expenses for 2026: $912,717.24

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
	11:AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	12:30PM: Council Meeting (Office Conference Room)
	2PM: Marchant (Gym)
Monday	8AM: Preschool
	12:30PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall)
	6:15PM: Adult Handbells (Choir Room)
	6:30PM: Lutheran Men
Tuesday	8AM: Preschool
	9:05AM: Men's Bible (Social Hall)
	11:30AM: Prime Time Thanksgiving Lunch (Social Hall)
	6PM: Nantz (Social Hall)
Wednesday	8AM: Preschool
	10AM: Women's Bible (Sr. High Room)
	11:45AM: Lunch (Social Hall)
	12:30PM: Wednesday Eucharistic Service (Sanctuary-Online)
	5PM: Dinner (Social Hall); Cherub Choir (Choir Room)
	5:30PM: Carol & Treble Choirs (Choir Room); Jr. High Youth (Jr. High Room)
	6PM: Adult Bible Study (Agape Classroom); Confirmation Class (Saints & Sinners Classroom)
	6:45PM: Wings of Worship (Sanctuary)
	7PM: Adult Choir (Choir Room)
	7:30PM: AA/Al-Anon meetings (Social Hall/Parlor)
Thursday	8AM: Preschool
	5:30PM: Chat & Chew (Bellis House of Pizza)
	7PM: AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Friday	8AM: Preschool
Saturday	
Sunday	**8:30AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary-Online)**
	9:45AM: Sunday School for all ages
	11AM: Worship Service (Sanctuary)
	4PM: Turkey Trot (Butler Street Parking Lot)

The Spirit of St. Stephen's Weekly for November 15 – November 22, 2026

Congregational Council approves causes to be featured monthly. **November - Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary (LTSS)** is 1 of 7 ELCA Seminaries and the only seminary found in the Southern region of the United States. The Seminary is a part of Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, NC. LTSS has been educating and preparing leaders for the church since 1830 and continues that mission today. As members of the SC Synod of the ELCA it has been and will continue to be a part of our mission to support the seminary both with our prayers and our treasures. Please consider designating any donations over and above your regular giving to LTSS to help support the institution, the students, and their ministry present and future.

Hospitalized: Jill Vickers, Palmetto Baptist; Bennett Roof, Home

Join us for our Wednesday Eucharistic Service, November 18th 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.

Building Maintenance Lunch: Join Lutheran Men **TODAY** for lunch in the social hall. They are serving country fried steak, rice and gravy, green beans, rolls, and assorted desserts. All proceeds go directly to the building maintenance fund. Meals are ready for take-out or eat-in after the 8:30 & 11:00 services.

Our 4th Annual Turkey Trot is next Sunday, November 22 at 4pm. This is a family friendly 5K event and will be held in the parking lot! You can walk, run, stroll, bike, skate, or just show up to cheer everyone else on! We just want our favorite turkeys to come out and enjoy a fun time together! We will have hotdogs and hamburgers for supper and just take the afternoon to be thankful for such an awesome church family!! No charge...Just RSVP to Shannon (Shannon@sslc.org) by Wednesday, Nov. 18 so we know how many turkeys to expect!

Advent Holden Evening Prayer Service will be on Tuesday, Dec. 1, 8, 15, & 22 at 6pm in the sanctuary. Holden Evening Prayer is a beautiful, contemporary vespers service that was written by Marty Haugen in 1985-86 while at Holden Village. We hope you will join us!

Mission Lexington: Our end-of-the-year food drive is underway with 435 lbs. collected towards a goal of 1,500 lbs. of food between not and December 18. Our yearly donations are 7,161 lbs. toward a goal of 8,000 lbs. Let's finish the year strong! 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. Holiday Items: canned sweet potatoes, candied yams, stuffing mixes, gravy mix, cake mix, and cranberry sauce. 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.

Ham and Turkey Donations: Nurture and Outreach is seeking donations of $25 that will be used to buy gift cards for those in need. The gift cards will then be used to purchase a ham or a turkey for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas. Please make checks payable to St. Stephen's and in the remarks section put "ham and turkey fund".

Lutheran Men: Please join us Monday, November 16 at 6:30pm in the social hall for a meal and a presentation by Lori Bode, Executive Director for South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers. Cost of Meal is $10.00. Ron Redd 803-360-0241 or Rredd7848@gmail.com.

Music: The **Ladies who Lunch** will gather at the home of Lu Bickley on Thursday, December 3. Bring a holiday treat to share! The **Romeo's** will have the annual Christmas party on Thursday, December 10 at the home of Sarah Huckabee. More details will be coming! Save the date for the annual **Children's Choir Christmas program** on Sunday, December 13 at 3:00pm in the sanctuary. Come see our precious lambs and angels join the cast of characters telling the story about Jesus and his birth. Our **adult choir** will present the music of Advent on Sunday, December 20 at both services.

Be part of something bigger! LHS Students in Action (SIA) is a group of leaders who unite the school in charity work. Healing Hearts Drive, which supports kids and teens facing mental health struggles and hospital stays at Prisma Health, is being sponsored by Brooklyn Davenport. Her wish list includes fidgets, stress balls, stuffed animals, pajamas, blankets, fuzzy socks, card games, puzzles, and coloring books. All items need to be new! Please drop off any donations by Nov. 29th in the social hall. Please contact Brooklyn with any questions! (803) 849-2322; Bpd0628@gmail.com. Sophie Taylor and Connor Crumpton are also supporting a Children's Book Drive until Nov. 20. All collected books will be donated to a local elementary school to help young students build the essential early reading and literacy skills they need to succeed. Books are aimed for students ages 4-11 and can be picture books up to early reader chapter books. Spanish and English books are accepted. Books should be new.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing: On Saturday, December 12 we will be serving at Lowes Foods on Augusta Highway (across from Lexington High School) from 10am-6pm. Please consider signing up to ring the bell! It's always a lot of fun and it's a great way to give back! Contact Shannon if you have questions.

Prime Time Thanksgiving Luncheon will be on Tuesday, November 17 at 11:30am in the social hall. The turkey will be provided…just bring a side to share! The preschool will share their Thanksgiving songs before lunch. Please plan to bring a side and sign up so we know how many are coming and what sides are being provided. If you can't bring a side, sign up anyway!!

Jr. and Sr. High Youth – 6th-12th graders: Join us for our 4th Annual Turkey Trot at SSLC on Sunday, November 22 at 4pm. This is a family friendly 5K event and will be held in the parking lot! You can walk, run, stroll, bike, skate, or just show up to cheer everyone else on! We just want our favorite turkeys to come out and enjoy a fun time together! We will have hotdogs and hamburgers for supper and just take the afternoon to be thankful for such an awesome church family!! No charge...Just RSVP to Shannon (Shannon@sslc.org) by Wednesday, Nov. 18 so we know how many turkeys to expect!

Pancakes and PJs with Santa: On Friday, December 11 from 5:30pm-6:30pm wear your Christmas PJs, fill your belly with pancakes, and visit with Santa! Take personal pictures with Santa and each child will make a Christmas craft. Ticket cost is $20 per child (one adult admitted free per child); additional adults $10. Contact Shannon to purchase tickets.

Chat & Chew: Join your church family on November 19 at 5:30pm at Bellis House of Pizza for a fun night of food and fellowship! Host: Marilyn Fattman. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

New Members Luncheon: If you are a new member at St. Stephen's we would love to have you join your church staff for lunch on Sunday, November 29 at 12:15pm in the social hall. This is for anyone that has recently joined SSLC. It will be a time for us to answer any questions you may have and get to know you and your family a little better. Please RSVP by November 22 to Tonya@sslc.org.

Staff Appreciation Sunday will be next Sunday, November 22. We will recognize SSLC staff at the beginning of each service.

St. Stephen's Grief Group: Are you dealing with grief? You are not alone! Grief is experienced by so many people and in so many ways -- physical, emotional, and spiritual. Do you need a place: to know that you are not alone, to affirm that what you are going through is a part of the journey of grief, to take a break from the loneliness, to be supported as you share your story and support others as they share theirs, and/or to find some hope in the midst of your struggle? If so, St. Stephen's will be starting a 4-week Advent grief group on Sunday, November 29 through Sunday, December 20, in the office conference room beginning at 9:45am. If you would like to sign up, please contact Pastor Jason, Pastor Ralph, or the church office.