St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

1820 County Road 540-A Lakeland, Florida, 33813 Office: 863-646-6115 ststoffice@gmail.com

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The First Sunday in Lent



Lent is the forty-day period before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends the Saturday before Easter. We skip Sundays when we count the forty days, because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection. This forty day period is called Lent because that is the Old English word for spring, the season of the year during which these days fall. This is something unique to English. In almost all other languages its name is a derivative of the Latin term Quadragesima, or "the forty days.

Why forty days? Because forty days is a traditional number of discipline, devotion, and preparation in the Bible. Moses stayed on the Mountain of God forty days (Exodus 24:18 and 34:28), the spies were in the land for forty days (Numbers 13:25), Elijah traveled forty days before he reached the cave where he had his vision (1 Kings 19:8), Nineveh was given forty days to repent (Jonah 3:4), and most importantly, prior to undertaking his ministry, Jesus spent forty days in wilderness praying and fasting.

Originally, Lent was the time of preparation for those who were to be baptized, a time of concentrated study and prayer before their baptism at the Easter Vigil, the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord early on Easter Sunday. But since these new members were to be received into a living community of Faith, the entire community was called to preparation. Also, this was the time when those who had been separated from the Church would prepare to rejoin the community. Today, Lent is marked by a time of prayer, study, and preparation to celebrate Easter.



There will a Vestry Meeting Tuesday, February 20th at 6:00pm, in the Worship center. Vestry Meeting are opened to all members of the congregation.



St. Stephen's ... To Love and Serve God and Neighbor



Our VESTRY 2018- Karen Spiller, Walter Thomas, Buster Brown 2019- Richard Eijo, Karen Beasley, Marcia Heath 2020- Mike Whitt, Bill Baggett, Ben Cochran Treasurer: Bruce Goers Book keeper: Cathy Zielinski

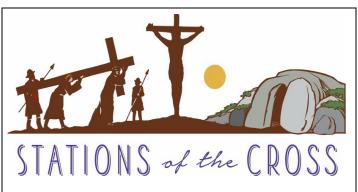






SHROVE TUESDAY 2018

Many thanks to chefs Richard and Melissa Eijo and to the hospitality team of Carol Reynolds, Marcia Heath, Bonnie Rowbotham and Sharon Crosdale. The pancakes were yummy and the fellowship was great. We all left felling Shriven.



Stations of the Cross (or Way of the Cross) refers to the depiction of the final hours of Jesus, and the devotion commemorating the Passion. The tradition as chapel devotion began with St. Francis of Assisi. Stations may be done at any time, but is most commonly done during the Season of Lent. Starting on Wednesday, February 28th and for the next four Wednesdays Fr. **David will lead Stations of the Cross in** the Sanctuary at 6:45pm. Please consider adding this to your Lenten discipline. This quiet service is a powerful experience and a way slow down and focus on the upcoming events of Holy Week.



Support our Scout Troops by buying
Mulch. This mulch sale is their big Spring
fund raiser. The cost is \$4.00 per bag.
Types of mulch are; Red Cypress, Natural
Cypress and Pine Bark. One bag will
cover 8 square feet. The mulch will be
delivered to you and for \$1.00 more per
bag the Scouts will spread it. The
delivery date is March 10. Please call or
stop by the office to place your order.
More details can be found by emailing
troop106fundraising@gmail.com

+++Verse of the Week, 2 Corinthians 4:6+++

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory displayed in the face of Christ.



Come Join Us For A Fun Afternoon on Saturday , February 24th at 2:00pm. There will be an African Fashion Show and Tea along with door prizes, silent auction and authentic items from Kenya for sale. For more information please contact **Brigitte Garcia at** 954-261-4370.



All proceeds from this event will go to ongoing Children's projects in Kenya.



Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

February 11, 2018 Attendance: 219 Income: \$4119.00

Bucks for our Buildings: \$55.00



Last Sunday at the Annual Meeting Fr. David introduced his Bible chapter summaries to you. Bill Heath and Morgan Gores spoke about how helpful these introductions had been to them. The season of Lent is a perfect time to take on the discipline of Scripture reading and these book by book summaries of the Bible written by Fr. David are a great help. There are black file boxes in each worship area with files of each book, up to Lamentations, and folders for you to put them in. Starting next week, February 25th and every Sunday after that we will have a new chapter for you pick up and add to your collection.

If you have any questions please see Fr. David, Priscilla Kight or call the office at 646-6115.



February 20th: Vestry Meeting

February 21st: Noon Service and Book studies

February 26th: Staff Meeting@10:30am

February 27th: Colorists @1:00pm

February 28th: Noon Service and Book Studies

Stations of the Cross @6:45pm

March 5th: Staff Meeting@10:30am

March 6th: Spaghetti Dinner



THE 2018 FLOWER CHART IS NOW POSTED IN THE NARTHEX FOR THE SANCTUARY, AND ON THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE WORSHIP CENTER. \$20.00 pays for flowers to adorn our altars on Sunday.



February Birthdays

- 4 Elissia Eijo
- 5 Rachel Workman
- 7 Morgan Goers Virginia Marcinek
- 8 Brouck Boyd
- 15 DeAnn Brown
- 16 Carrie McNeill Dianne Knox Lenny Paradise
- **18 Carmen Kight**
- 22 Victoria Paradise
- 25 Bob Martin
- 26 Glen Zielinski Lula Peoples
- 28 Bob Stockwell



February Anniversaries

- 11 Dale & Amy Ling
- 14 Tim & Ellen Irwin
- 27 Bill & Marcia Heath
- 28 Bruce & Morgan Goers

St. Stephen's Prayer List

(Parish Members are in Bold)

Long Term Prayer Needs: Liz Barham, Major surgery Janell Repsher, lung problems, Scott Barham Heart Surgery Recovery, Kathleen and Jimmy Turner (Janet Casini's brother and sister inlaw), Loriane Turner (knee injury) Jaime Morris (Robi Leibecki's daughter) Robi Leibecki, Lars & Jade Andersson (Brigitte Garcia's niece and nephew), John Fitzgerald (Sue Deman's dad), Bill Warneke eyes, Tony Barfield cancer, Trudi Lithgow back problem, Roy Reynolds heart problems (Carol Reynolds husband), Pat Dupont back problems, Ken Horne , Michele Giberson Autoimmune disorder, Bethany and Stetson Glass, prayers for successful adoption (Bob and Marge Stockwell's grand daughter) Carol Kahlenberg mental illness (Evie McCormick's friend), Susan Cardman MS, Sandy Gibson, Salena and her family (Janet Casini's family) Kevin Jackimowicz back and hip (Kim's husband). Isabel Clayton RA (Evie McCormick's friend), Gene Dumaresq bladder cancer, Karen Stockwell recovery from 2nd heart attack (Bob and Marge Stockwell's daughter-inlaw), Yvonne Kimble, breast cancer (Betty Pratt's Niece), , Ben Cochran recovering from back surgery, Mary K breast cancer, Lindsay Zielinski autoimmune disorder, Bob Stockwell Esophageal cancer, JC and Heather Presley, multiple health issues,1st Lt Tyler Owens (a Platoon Leader deployed to Syria) and his Platoon, Kelly Burk, (injuries from a car accident), Mavis Walker, multiple health issues, Dailia Walker, multiple health issues, Humphrey Walker, Stroke, Melissa Conti, eye inflammation, Ron Cain, Sea Scout suffering with cancer,

<u>Pregnant</u>: Savannah and Robert, Kevin and Matilda, John and Tiffany, Kyle and Rachel Blackwell

<u>Homebound or Skilled Nursing Facility</u>: Dawn Flynn , Tom Haney, Grace Ledwith, Nancy Bailey, Jim & Jo Willey, Carmen Kight, Susan Cardman

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship in Action Sunday Lunch at noon followed by a brief Service	Office Closed for President's Day	Vestry Meeting 6:00pm	Noon Service Book Study 7:00pm Book Study	7:00pm Choir Practice	Office Closed	24 African Tea and Fashion Show 2:00
9:00am Holy Eucharist 10:15am Sunday School 11:00am Children's Church 11:00am Holy Eucharist	26 Staff Meeting 10:30	27 Colorist Group 1:00pm	28 Noon Service Book Study 7:00pm Book Study	7:00pm Choir Practice	2 Office Closed	3