

**St. Stephen's  
Episcopal Church**

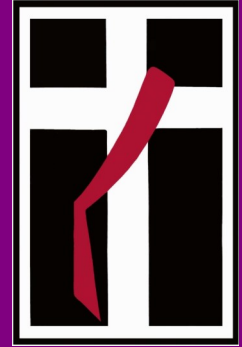
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# FYI 2021

February 21, 2021 Volume 19 Issue 7

The First Sunday in Lent



## What to do during Lent?

### Daily Thoughts, Scriptures, and Prayers to Guide You Through Lent

Pick up a pack of devotion cards on Sunday in your worship area!

We made these easy to use and included one card for each day until we come to Easter. These will also be available in the office and at drive-thru communion next Sunday, Feb. 28th.



### Worship in Action Card Writers Wanted



Instead of a Worship in Action Sunday this year we will be writing cards of love and encouragement to others.

Choose from cards for:

- fellow parishioners
- residents of local long-term care facilities
- other persons of your choice who need a little extra care this year

We have 5-packs of church greeting cards available in both worship areas. Packs of cards will also be available at Drive-thru Communion next Sunday on February 28th.

Spend the season of Lent spreading God's love to others!

### Thanks, Scouts, for Your Scout Sunday Participation Last Week!

### Mulch Sale Orders and Payment due this Tues., Feb. 23

Remember to order your mulch from our Troop 106 Scouts for delivery Saturday, March 6th:

\$4 per bag for hardwood or pine bark mulch and \$1 extra for spreading the mulch for you  
10-bag minimum for free delivery, payment due February 23rd

You may email orders to:

[troop106fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:troop106fundraising@gmail.com) or see Missy & Jarrett Sabine or Graydon Ausmus.



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



2021-Liz Barham, David Dresser, Debbie Powell  
2022-Charles Bradford, Steve Meyer, Missy Sabine  
2023-Karen Beasley, Richard Eijo, Carol Reynolds

Treasurer: Charles Bradford

Bookkeeper: Cathy Zielinski

## TWO SAVE THE DATES and A PEACE UPDATE

Polk Ecumenical Action Council for Empowerment – the multi-congregation justice ministry of which St. Stephens is a proud member – asks you to come to the Silver Moon Drive-In at 6:30 p.m. March 16. Silver Moon is at 1400 Old Tampa Highway, AKA Highway 92 and George Jenkins Boulevard, Lakeland.

Free admission. No movie, but a very important event.

It's the annual Nehemiah Action where elected officials and others in position of power are asked to commit to specific actions requested by PEACE. These requests are made after months of research on justice issues in Polk County.

Officials know the questions in advance, so there won't be any gotcha moments. We need your participation because it's vital to show strength in numbers.

I'll tell you what our key issues are this year, but first let me tell you where you can hear a lot more:

At the PEACE Rally at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 23, in the parking lot of First Presbyterian Church on Lake Hollingsworth.

Same type of format: Sitting in our cars as a safety precaution.

At First Presbyterian, you're asked to flash your lights in support instead of honking the horn so you don't upset their neighbors.

For people who can't drive to a nighttime event but want to participate:

The rally at First Presbyterian will be available via Zoom.

The Nehemiah Action – the one so vitally important to have good attendance for – will be available on Zoom and livestreamed.

As you can tell, PEACE has no intention of letting COVID-19 keep us from working toward our goals. Focus issues this year are:

Lack of affordable housing and its particular impact on homeless families, those making \$30,000 a year or less. They get left out of the picture too often when city or county officials work with developers on affordable housing.

The impact of arrests and convictions for minor offenses, misdemeanors, not violent crimes, on someone's life.

Those who follow PEACE know we've had great success in getting Lakeland Police Department, the Polk County Sheriff's Office, the State Attorney's Office, Polk Public Defender and other police departments to refer more minors in that situation to diversion/citation programs. It isn't a get-off-free pass, but it prevents them from being haunted by a criminal record.

This can be done with adults too, but it rarely is. We're working to get them included in the citation program for minor, non-violent offenses.

With affordable housing, you've probably heard the city of Lakeland is making efforts to increase supply. They don't oppose affordable housing, but there's a problem with the housing they have coming in:

Most aren't multi-bedroom units targeted to families with children making \$30,000 or less. A lot of existing funding programs, and many developers, don't focus on this group the way we need them to.

Our proposal is something done in other cities:

An affordable housing trust fund in which the city, by putting up more of its own money, has control over who the housing units are for. City officials' hands are more tied with existing federal and state programs.

You'll be hearing from PEACE members who will ask you to commit to coming to the Nehemiah Action. Please accept this request and, if you can make the one on Feb. 23 also, that would be great.

Don't feel constrained to wait for us to call you. Please contact Pete McArthur. 682-2578; or Robin Adams, 640-5240; to let us know your interest in the Feb. 23 Rally and/or March 16 Nehemiah Action. Robin's email is [robinwadams99@yahoo.com](mailto:robinwadams99@yahoo.com). Father Rob Moses leads our St. Stephens' team.



PEACE

POLK ECUMENICAL ACTION  
COUNCIL FOR EMPOWERMENT

**Verse of the Week—Mark 1:15**

**The kingdom of God has come near.  
Repent and believe the good news!**



- February 28 Monthly Drive-Thru Communion**
- March 9 5pm Talbot House Chili Night**
- March 16 6:30pm Vestry Zoom Mtg**
- March 28 Palm Sunday  
7pm Lenten Quiet Svc.**
- April 1 Maundy Thursday  
7pm Worship Svc.**
- April 2 Good Friday  
12noon Worship Svc.  
1pm Cross Walk  
7pm Worship Svc.**



*"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 14, 2021**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>9am:</b>	<b>17</b>
	<b>10am:</b>	<b>19</b>
	<b>11am:</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>59</b>

**Total Offerings unavailable—  
update next week**

*Thank you for your continued faithfulness during this time of personal separation.*

**Lenten Greenery Donors Needed for March 7, March 14**

Just email [ststlinda@gmail.com](mailto:ststlinda@gmail.com) to sign up or fill out a dedication form on Sunday. Thanks!



**Help for Those in Need**

Do you know someone who is in need? We have several small boxes of shelf-stable food and a number of donated blankets in our office.

Please feel free to ask for these for yourselves or others you may know.



Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm, or speak with clergy on Sundays.

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING TONIGHT AT 6:30PM**

**Flower Guild Recruiting New Members**

Our Flower Guild purchases seasonal flowers and greenery and arranges them each week and for special services.

Although we use only greenery on the altar during the season of Lent, our flower arrangers would love to begin training new volunteers to assist with this important ministry.

If you are interested in learning the art of flower arranging, please call Yoli Howes, 863-646-6955.



*The Lenten greenery on the altar has been  
given by Rita Yenney  
in memory of her grandmother, Anne Graham*

**February Birthdays**

- 4 Elissia Eijo
- 5 Rachel Workman
- 7 Morgan Goers
- 8 Brouck Boyd
- 15 DeAnn Brown
- 16 Chance Abbey  
Everly Enriquez  
Dianne Knox  
Lenny Paradise
- 18 Carmen Kight
- 21 Allison Westberry
- 22 Victoria Paradise
- 23 Harry Solloway
- 25 James Bowen  
Bob Martin
- 26 David Befus  
Everly Enriquez  
Lula Peoples  
Peyton Sale  
Glen Zielinski
- 28 Robert Sale



**February Anniversaries**

- 5 Scott Dickie & Jami Beasley
- 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)**

**Prayer Needs:**

Kevin Ames (**David Dresser's** cousin), Shannon Black (from **Kathy Leahy**), **Stephen Calhoun**, Tomasso Casini (son of **Janet & Italo Casini**), **Deborah Cole**, **Roger Doyle**, Laurie Dresser (**David Dresser's** sister), **Evalyn Duncan**, **Kit Duncan**, former member Pat Dupont, **Eileen Fox**, **Michele Giberson**, **John Gove**, **Bill Heath**, Nicole Herknkind (**Karen Spiller's** sister), **Dan Howes**, **Kevin Jackimowicz**, Dorothy Jensen (**Bob Martin's** sister), Scott Johnson (**Judy Horne's** brother), Ken & Clair Jones (friends of **Roger Doyle**), Fronnie LeBlanc (**Morgan Goers's** sister-in-law), **Pat Martin**, Charlie Meade, **Roy Reynolds**, Donna Roberts (**David Dresser's** sister), Mike Robinson (**Kai Richardi's** grandfather), **Marion Stewart**, **Marge Stockwell**, **Carol Vonesh**, **Dahlia Walker**, **Juliana Walker**, **Mavis Walker**, **Bill Warneke**.

**Homebound or Skilled Nursing Facility:**

**Tony Barfield**, **Brouck Boyd**, **Susan Cardman**, **Tom Crawford**, **Dawn Flynn**, **Tom Haney**, **Carmen Kight**, **Rick Rahn**, **Mavis Walker**, **Jo Willey**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>9am Worship, Wctr &amp; online</p> <p>10am Worship, Sanct</p> <p>10am Sunday School</p> <p>11am Worship, Wctr</p> <p>6:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>8am Morning Prayer at Circle B &amp; online</p> <p>8:30am Eucharist &amp; Bible Study at Circle B</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>8am Online MPryr</p> <p>9am Euch, Sanct</p> <p>9:45am Bible Study, Sanct.</p> <p>12noon Book Study, WC</p> <p>8pm Onl Compline</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office Closed</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p>9am Worship, Wctr &amp; online</p> <p>10am Worship, Sanct</p> <p>10am Sunday School</p> <p>11am Worship, Wctr</p> <p>6:30pm Youth Group</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>8am Morning Prayer at Circle B &amp; online</p> <p>8:30am Eucharist &amp; Bible Study at Circle B</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>8am Online MPryr</p> <p>9am Euch, Sanct</p> <p>9:45am Bible Study, Sanct.</p> <p>12noon Book Study, WC</p> <p>8pm Onl Compline</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office Closed</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>