

St. Stephen's  
Episcopal Church

# FYI 2025



1820 E. County Rd. 540A  
Lakeland, FL 33813  
863-646-6115  
Office Hrs. M-Th10am-3pm

December 7, 2025 Vol 25 Issue 50  
2nd Sunday in Advent

## 4 Ways To Give This Christmas

### Valley View

#### Elementary School

Valley View is asking for winter gloves and hats (greatest need), snacks for the clinic (fruit snacks, granola bars, goldfish), travel size toiletries (deodorant, body wash, toothpaste), size XS and S underwear and socks. You may also donate cash/check to St. Stephen's with "Elementary" in the notation.

### Scott Lake

#### Elementary School

Scott Lake is asking for kids' shoes in sizes 12, 13, 1, 2, 3, and kid sizes for drawstring shorts/pants (jeans, khaki, and navy ). They could also use jackets and solid color sweater shirts in navy or red. You may also donate cash/check to St. Stephen's with "Elementary" in the notation.

### Hurricane Melissa Relief

Funds will be collected for organizations offering direct relief and rebuilding efforts in Jamaica after the hurricane. Cash/check to St. Stephen's with "Hurricane" in the notation.

### VISTE

Volunteers in Service to the Elderly: personal care or cleaning items easy for the elderly to use, hair care products, lotions, skin care, etc. Also cash/check to St. Stephen's with "VISTE" in the notation.

Collecting Until December 14

## Rejoice

ROMANS 8:28

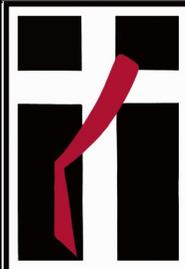


**Our Advent Quiet Service** is this evening at 7:00PM in the Worship Center. Join us for a candlelit gathering with Advent music and readings. If you have never attended this service, we guarantee you will be moved, centered and inspired. Please come join us!

*Oh, Come, Oh Come,*



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



2025-Nancy Wenham, Major Kight, Liz Barham  
2026-Betty Pratt, Juliana Walker, Karen Spiller-Sr. Warden  
2027-Joyce Brock, Stephen Gaydosh-Jr. Warden, Jack Vonesh  
Bookkeeper: Cathy Zielinski Secretary: Karen Beasley  
Bookkeeper: Cathy Zielinski

**The Caregivers and Grief Group** meets this month on December 9th at 2:00pm in the small groups room. If you or someone you know would benefit from speaking with other people who have or are currently handling grief or stress due to a loss or giving a loved one care, please keep this group in mind.

They meet at least once a month on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2:00pm.



### Talbot House

The ladies responsible for preparing and serving clients at Talbot House wish to express their sincere appreciation for the contributions of Brownies last month. The 200 residents served were thankful for your generosity.

**However, the demand remains high, and if you are able, continued support in making Brownies would be greatly valued.**



### Vestry Meeting– December 16

There will be a vestry meeting on **Tuesday December 16th at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall**

The vestry is the group in the Episcopal Church that handles the business and operational decisions of the parish

**All are welcome to attend. If you are interested in joining our vestry, this is a good chance to see how it works. God Bless**



**VESTRY**

**The Lunch Bunch** enjoyed a lively and memorable meal at the **1916 Irish Pub** in November—great company, delicious food and plenty of laughs! This December, we're excited to gather again, this time at **Fred's Market Buffet** on Harden Blvd. Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:30AM. Everyone is welcome—bring a friend and join the fun! If you'd like to join us, just give Debbie Bradford a call at 305-304-2548. We hope to see you there for another wonderful lunch together.

**2120 Harden Blvd,  
Lakeland, FL 33803**



### *Midweek Service Paused....*

We want to share with you, that we have paused our midweek services until January. This decision was made with care and consideration from the Wednesday group, hoping to offer everyone a season of rest, reflection, and renewal as we move toward a new year together.

Even though we won't be meeting in person for our midweek services, know that you are closely held in our prayers and thoughts. May this pause for the Christmas season be a gentle invitation to rest, to seek God in quiet moments, and to dream together about the blessings ahead.

If you need prayer, support, or just someone to talk to, our church office and Father David or Deacon Doug are always here for you. Please reach out—we'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for being such an important part of our church life. We look forward to a joyous Christmas and New Year and until our gathering again in January, refreshed and ready to continue this journey together. Until then, may you find peace, rest, and joy in this season.





**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

- 12/07/25 2nd Sunday in Advent & Quiet Service at 7pm**
- 12/14/25 No Brunch this Sunday**
- 12/14/25 3rd Sunday in Advent & Taste of Christmas 5pm**
- 12/16/25 Vestry Meeting 6-8pm**
- 12/18/25 Lunch Bunch @ Fred's 11:30**
- 12/21/25 Cookie Exchange, after each service**
- 12/24/25 Christmas Eve Family Service 6pm**
- 12/24/25 Christmas Eve Midnight Service 10:30pm**
- 12/25/25 Christmas Day Service in the Garden 10am**



Middle and High School youth are invited to attend. We start with supper together and then the fun and action begin!

Any questions, see Mrs. Lula Peoples, 954-579-1446 or Missy Sabine, 863-608-1179.

*Welcome to our Church*

**November 30 2025 Attendance**

<b>Sanctuary</b>	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Worship Center</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>97</b>

**Look for the bright yellow BUCK\$ 4 BUILDING envelopes to donate toward our out of budget building and grounds maintenance expenses.**

**2025-2026 Altar Flower Dedications**

We invite you to honor loved ones or commemorate special occasions in 2025 or 2026 by dedicating altar flowers. To reserve your date, simply pick up a dedication form and select from the available Sunday dates, which are clearly listed on a wall poster near your worship entrance.

Dedication forms can be found in both the Sanctuary and the Worship Center for your convenience. Please use these forms to reserve your preferred date and ensure your dedication is included in our worship services.

**Seasonal Flower Needs**

In addition to regular Sunday dedications, we are seeking donations of poinsettias and flowers for Advent and Christmas celebrations. Planning for Easter 2026 is also underway, and it is not too early to begin considering your contributions for this special season.



**Verse of the Week: Matthew 3:3**

**Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.**



**Help to Make our Season Bright by Picking up a Christmas Flower Dedication Form at each service and putting them in the plate**



**December Birthdays**

- 1** Kim Jackimowicz, Carol Nicholas
- 3** Carol Harris, Rick Yenney
- 7** Linda France
- 10** John MacGilvray
- 13** Victoria Naples
- 17** Missy Sabine
- 19** Enid Alers
- 21** Nathan Peoples
- 24** Michele Giberson, Frank St. Amour
- 29** Susan MacGilvray, Nancy Wenham
- 31** Walter Thomas



**December Anniversaries**

- 8** Kevin & Kim Jackimowicz
- 11** Scott & Carla Sauve
- 15** Lou & Enid Alers
- 31** Judy Elam & Jim Cook



**St. Stephen's Prayer List  
(Parish Members are in Bold)**

**Prayer Needs:** Amy (Fr. Scott's Daughter), Lou Alers, Kim Birmingham (from **Scout Troop 106**), Charlie Bibb (**Season Barham Hodges** Father in Law) Shannon Black (from **Kathy Leahy**), **Louis Bloodworth**, Elizabeth Bradford (**Charlie Bradford's** sister), Bryan Biery (**Judy Elam's** Friend), Rachel Blackwell (**Karen Spiller's** daughter-in-law), **Jim Bowen, Betty Calhoun, Stephen Calhoun, Italo & Janet Casini**, Roz Coleman (**Althea Nye's** friend) **Jim Cross**, Annie Delling, **Roger Doyle**, Laurie Dresser (**David Dresser's** sister), Lily Dresser (**David & Patricia Dresser's** granddaughter), **Stacy Englert**, Laurens Flanagan (**Sally Flanagan's Daughter in Law**), **Morgan Goers**, Ricky Morrison, Becky Sue Morrison (**Stacy & Michael Englert's** Friends), Jeremy Gagne (**Pat Dupont's nephew**) Angela Grilli (**Althea Nye's** friend), **Jim Heal**, Bob & Kay Henry (friends of **Betty Calhoun**) Nicole Herhnkind (**Karen Spiller's** sister), **Kevin Jackimowicz**, Ken & Clair Jones (**Roger Doyle's** friends), Kay Jordan (**Judy Elam's** friend) Karen Kent (**David Dresser's** Relative) David Kight (**Major Kight's** brother) Cynthia Krempel (**Janice Olson's** sister) , **Trudi Lithgow**, Mary & Adrian McAleer (**Liz Barham's** sister & Brother in Law), **Donna McLemore**, Raelyn (daughter of **Sue DeMan's** friend Stephanie), Al & Lucille Pfund, (**Lula Peoples'** co-worker), **Janell & Walter Repsher, Roy Reynolds , Glen Richardi**, Donna Roberts (**David Dresser's** sister) **Art & Bonnie Rowbotham, Shirley Rumpel, Carla Sauve**, Sheryl Short (Tropical Doll Club), Ed Silveira (**David Dresser's** Cousin), **Karen Spiller**, Lynn Staffier (from **Kathy Leahy**), **Carol Starling, Marion Stewart, Gloria Thomason, Helen Vogt, Dailia Walker, Meg Wallace, Lindsay Zielinski.**

**Homebound or Skilled Nursing Facility:** Tony Barfield, Susan Cardman, Rick Rahn, Jo Willey, Sandra Mewborn, Pat Dayton.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>7</b> 9:00am Sanctuary 11:00am Worship Center	<b>8</b> 8am Online Morning Prayer  8pm Online Compline	<b>9</b> 8am Online Morning Prayer Talbot House Chili  8pm Online Compline	<b>10</b> 8am Online Morning Prayer  8pm Online Compline	<b>11</b> 8am Online Morning Prayer  8pm Online Compline	<b>12</b> Office Closed  8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	<b>13</b> Office Closed
<b>14</b> 9:00am Sanctuary 11:00am Worship Center	<b>15</b> 8am Online Morning Prayer  8pm Online Compline	<b>16</b> 8am Online Morning Prayer  8pm Online Compline	<b>17</b> 8am Online Morning Prayer  8pm Online Compline	<b>18</b> 8am Online Morning Prayer 11:30am Lunch Bunch at Fred's  8pm Online Compline	<b>19</b> Office Closed  8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	<b>20</b> Office Closed