

St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church

1820 E. County Rd. 540A
Lakeland, FL 33813
863-646-6115
Office Hrs. M-Th 9am-3pm

FYI 2026

March 1, 2026 Vol 26 Issue 9
2nd Sunday in Lent



Sunday

March 8!

Daylight Savings time begins NEXT Sunday, March 8th. Remember to set your clocks forward one hour on Saturday Night.

Christmas Bazaar Help

I am putting this in early so that we are prepared when **December 5** gets here. **Michele Giberson** let us know last year that, due to back problems, she would only be able to help with the **Christmas Bazaar** in a limited capacity going forward. She is available to help and advise, but it is too much for her to lay out the booths and handle the physical setup.

If you are able to take this on—either on your own or as part of a team—please contact **Michele** or the **church office**. Thank you!



LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Stations of the Cross

- **DON'T MISS OUR DAILY 90-SECOND SERMONS ON FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE AT 10AM**
- **YOUR LENTEN DEVOTIONAL CARDS**
- **Stations of the Cross**

Beginning **Wednesday, February 25**, and continuing throughout the **Lenten season**, we will pray the **Stations of the Cross** in the Sanctuary. Each week, we will follow with **homemade soup and warm fellowship**.

If you are looking for a truly meaningful way to experience Lent, we invite you to come and join us. **Guaranteed to be worthwhile.**



Stations of the Cross



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

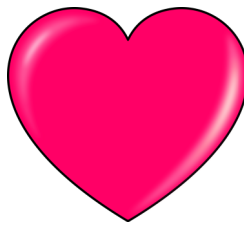


2026-Betty Pratt, Juliana Walker, Karen Spiller
2027-Joyce Brock, Stephen Gaydosh, Jack Vonesh-Treasurer.
2028-Mary Roach, Helen Vogt, Mike Whitt
Bookkeeper: Cathy Zielinski, Secretary: Karen Beasley

DECIDE TO FORGIVE

By Robert Muller

Decide to forgive
For resentment is negative
Resentment is poisonous
Resentment diminishes and devours the self.
Be the first to forgive,
To smile and to take the first step
And you will see happiness bloom
On the face of your human brother or sister.
Be always the first
Do not wait for others to forgive
For by forgiving
You become the master of
fate
The fashioner of life
A doer of miracles.
To forgive is the highest,
Most beautiful form of love.
In return you will receive
Untold peace and happiness.



The Lunch Bunch got together last week at Catfish Country and had a great time.

Next month we will be going to a "fan favorite", Dena's Place Diner and Grill on March 19, 2026. If you are interested in attending for some good food and great fellowship, call Debbie at 305-304-2548 or the office to let us know.

Easter Flowers Dedication Sheets in Your Worship Area

Look for forms marked "Easter Flowers" and fill out a form with your dedication. Your attached \$20 payment may be placed in the collection plate or sent to the church office. Please have your form turned in by Palm Sunday, March 29th in order to have your dedication in the Easter FYI. Flowers will be planted on the church grounds afterward to beautify our property.



Daylight Savings Time Big Brunch

Sunday March 8th

Between Services in the Parish Hall!!

**Please bring a dish to share
if you're able.**

Most importantly, bring your appetite!



Dog Treats

The Dog Treat Crew will meet again next month to bake homemade treats for our furry friends! If you're able to help, please bring your donations to church and place them in the collection bins.

Because of your wonderful generosity, we raised \$103 last Sunday for the Bully Project with our homemade dog treats! Thank you for faithfully supporting this ministry.

Needed items:

- Old-fashioned oats
- Unsalted peanuts
- Pumpkin purée



2025 Giving Statements

With the standard deduction now so high, many of us no longer need giving statements. If you do need a copy of your **2025 giving statement to St. Stephen's Church**, we are happy to provide one by **email or printed copy**.

Simply contact the church office by **email or phone**, and we will be glad to get it to you.

ststtreasurer@gmail.com

(863) 646-6115

NEEDED: CANDY (NOT CHOCOLATE) AND VOLUNTEERS TO STUFF EASTER CANDY BAGS

March 29th

We will meet Wednesday, April 1st at 10am in the Small Group Room to stuff Easter candy bags and assemble plastic eggs for the Easter morning egg hunt. If you're interested in participating, just call or email the office to volunteer!



Mark Your
Calendar

03/03/26	VBS Spaghetti Dinner 5:00—7:00 pm
03/04/26	Stations of the Cross, 5:00pm, Soup following
03/08/26	Daylight Savings Time Begins!! Big Brunch!! (Clocks move forward)
03/11/26	Stations of the Cross, 5:00pm, Soup following
03/17/26	Vestry Meeting 6:00pm
03/19/26	Lunch Bunch 11:30 Dena's
03/29/26	Palm Sunday in the Garden



Welcome to our Church

February 22, 2026

Sanctuary	9:00am	57
Worship Center	11:00am	66
Total		123

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

If you are new to St. Stephen's or if you would like to have Fr. David contact you, please fill out a Newcomer Card and place it in the plate and we will see that you are contacted. God Bless.

Verse of the Week: Psalm 121:1&2

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

March Birthdays

- 1 Celeste Cooper**
- 2 Scott Sauve, Abigail Lankford**
- 3 Glenn Brown, Jessica Peoples**
- 8 MaryLou Taylor**
Gloria Thomason
- 11 MaryLou Garland**
- 14 Dennis Flynn**
- 16 Bill Heath**
- 22 Richard Eijo, Shirley Rumpel**
- 24 Bill Schaal**
- 25 Joe Adams**
- 29 Mary Trimbath**



March Anniversaries

- 6 Richard & Melissa Eijo**
- 9 Steve & Beverly Meyer**
- 10 Ed & Dianne Knox**
- 15 Phil & Gail Wortman**
- 16 Bill & Dee Schaal**
- 25 Rick & Rita Yenney**
- 27 Dan & Michele Giberson**

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, Pat Dayton**, 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), Jeremey Gagne (**Pat Dupont's nephew**) Angela Grilli (Althea Nye's friend), **Jim Heal**, Bob & Kay Henry (friends of **Betty Calhoun**) Nicole Hernnkind (**Karen Spiller's** sister), **Wendell & Donna Hunt, Kevin Jackimowicz**, Ken & Clair Jones (**Roger Doyle's** friends), Kay Jordan (**Judy Elam's** friend), Father Robert Keller, (**Kathy Leahy's friend**) Karen Kent (**David Dresser's** Relative) 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 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, Helen Vogt, Dailia Walker, Meg & Rhys Wallace, Lindsay Zielinski.**

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Sanctuary</p> <p>10:15am Rector's Class, Sm Group Rm</p> <p>11:00am Worship Center</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>VBS Spaghetti Dinner</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>11:00am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>12:00 Book Study in the Parish Hall</p> <p>5:00pm Stations of the Cross and Soup</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Office Closed</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Begins</p> <p>9:00am Sanctuary</p> <p>10:15am Rector's Class, Sm Group Rm</p> <p>Big Brunch</p> <p>11:00am Worship Center</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>VBS Spaghetti Dinner</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>11:00am Holy Eucharist</p> <p>12:00 Book Study in the Parish Hall</p> <p>5:00pm Stations of the Cross and Soup</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Office Closed</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer</p> <p>8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Office Closed</p>