

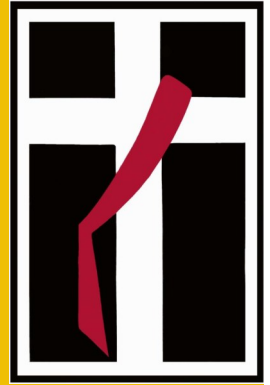
St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church

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

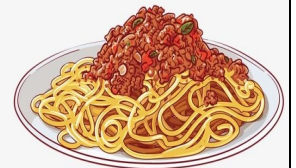
FYI 2026

April 5, 2026 Vol 26 Issue 14

Easter



Last Sunday's Passover Dinner and Seder Followed by Monday's Lenten Quiet Service and Wednesday's Stations of the Cross.



VBS Spaghetti Dinner April 7th 5-7pm

Spaghetti lovers, our monthly VBS Spaghetti Dinner is this Tuesday **5-7pm!**

For **\$7** you get a generous helping of spaghetti with meat sauce, a tossed salad, homemade garlic bread, and a cookie. Takeout available.

Please let us know if you can help with packing or distributing meals. Come out and support this fundraiser for our summer VBS program so it can continue to be free to all participants.



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



2026-Betty Pratt, Juliana Walker, Karen Spiller

2027-Joyce Brock, Stephen Gaydosch, Jack Vonesh-Treasurer.

2028-Mary Roach, Helen Vogt, Mike Whitt, Jr Warden

Bookkeeper: Cathy Zielinski, Secretary: Karen Beasley

Office Secretary: Charlie Bradford



**One World
One Night
One Light at a Time**

What's Spark The Night? A Beacon of Hope

An initiative to illuminate 11.9 million lights in vibrant blue on World Parkinson's Day, April 11th, for 11.9 million people with Parkinson's. Each light symbolizes an individual affected by Parkinson's and collectively, they illuminate the path towards awareness and hope. This signifies a shared commitment to bring Parkinson's out of the shadows, offering a beacon of support to those navigating the challenges of the condition. www.worldparkinsonsnight.com
#SparkTheNight

Spark the Night

April 11th

Why Blue?

Together We Stand in Solidarity

Blue symbolizes unity, hope, visibility, and recognition, all crucial in advancing awareness and support for Parkinson's disease. Lighting landmarks in blue on World Parkinson's Day shows global solidarity, honors those impacted by the disease, and sparks conversations that raise awareness, reduce stigma, and inspire action. It's a bold, visible statement working toward a future without Parkinson's.

Questions? Email Carolyn@pdavengers.com

**For more information about
Lakeland's "Spark The Night"
call Lori Phillips 863-602-2740**

Be a Spark: Join PD Avengers Today!

The Spark the night Lighting Campaign is organized by PD Avengers, The Global Alliance to End Parkinson's Disease Association, a patient-led organization, united in the purpose of ending Parkinson's disease. We raise awareness, engagement, and hope. We add urgency to the cause of ending Parkinson's disease. For PD Avengers, a "Think Global, Act Local" philosophy reflects our belief that change starts with individual action but grows through collective effort. It's how PD Avengers is building a future without Parkinson's, one community at a time. www.pdavengers.com

St. Stephen's T-Shirts

We are preparing to place another order for **St. Stephen's T-shirts** and would like to get an idea of the level of interest.

A couple of things to keep in mind:

- Many people feel the shirts **run a bit small**, so you may want to consider **ordering one size up**.
- Some have expressed interest in **long-sleeve shirts**.
- Others have asked about the possibility of a **collared shirt option**.
- Fr. David is getting a few samples so that you can see the material and style of the shirts.

Please let me know **if you are interested**, along with:

- The **type of shirt** (short sleeve, long sleeve, or collared), and
The **size** you would prefer.

Once we see how many people are interested, we will move forward with the order. Thank you!



Welcome to our Church

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday

Garden Chapel 10:00am 112

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.



Mark Your Calendar

- 4/05/26 Easter, 6:30am, 9am & 11am. Easter Brunch between services & Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Bonnet contest.
- 04/07/26 VBS Spaghetti Dinner 5-7pm
- 04/14/26 Talbot House Chili 3:30pm
- 04/16/26 Lunch Bunch at Ruby Tuesdays 11:30
- 04/21/26 Vestry Meeting 6:00pm
- 05/05/26 VBS Spaghetti Dinner 5-7pm
- 05/08/26 Life Line Screening 8-4pm

PEACE Nehemiah Action

Please attend the Polk Ecumenical Action Council for Empowerment's annual **Nehemiah Action** at **6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 20**, at **First United Methodist Church, 72 Lake Morton Drive, Lakeland.**

This is a different location than usual, but our purpose remains the same: to seek solutions to local problems and urge local officials to address them.

PEACE is working to persuade Polk County government to do more for low-income senior citizens. More than **2,000 seniors** are on a waiting list for basic services such as help with chores and other daily living activities. The goal is to help them remain in their homes longer, but existing programs cannot meet the need.

PEACE is also asking local agencies to work with us to improve awareness of and access to mental health care for children.

A large turnout at the Nehemiah Action is vital to convince officials to address these problems more effectively.

For questions, please contact:

- **Karen Beasley** — 863-838-3028
- **Robin Williams Adams** — 863-640-5240
- **Joanne Gunner** — 863-670-3991



Calling all Prayer Warriors

We are looking for a few praying parishioners. Contact Lee at 915-584-2074.



Verse of the Week: Psalm 118:14
The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.



**Flowers on the Altar are Given by Kathy Leahy in Loving
Memory of her Husband, David Leahy**



April Birthdays

- 1 Erica Long**
- 2 Marilyn Kempinski**
- 4 Jackie Monts de Oca**
- 6 Margaret Wallace**
- 13 Jami Beasley, Sally Flanagan**
- 16 Gail Green**
- 17 Maria Peoples**
- 18 Gail Wortman**
- 22 Roger Statzer & Carl Lowry**
- 23 Juliana Walker**
- 24 Loreto Smalling**
- 25 Jenna Walker**
- 26 Carol Clark**
- 27 Lee Carter**
- 29 Bill Thompson**

April Anniversaries

- 4 Jim & Karen Beasley
Michael & Stacy Englert**
- 6 Ernest & Melissa Palmer**
- 25 Larry & Becky Schuster**

**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), 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 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), Minnie Lewis (Sally Flanagan's Sister in Law) 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
5 EASTER 6:30am Sunrise in the Garden Chapel <i>Brunch after each Service</i> 9:00am Sanctuary Easter Egg Hunt 11:00am Worship Center	6 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	7 8am Online Morning Prayer VBS Spaghetti Dinner 5-7pm 8pm Online Compline	8 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	9 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	10 Good Friday 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	11 Office Closed
Office Closed Easter Week						
12 9:00am Sanctuary Easter Egg Hunt 11:00am Worship Center	13 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	14 8am Online Morning Prayer Talbot House Chili 8pm Online Compline	15 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:00am Holy Communion 8pm Online Compline	16 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	17 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	11 Office Closed