

**St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church**

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

FYI 2026



**May 17, 2026 Vol 26 Issue 20
7th Sunday of Easter**

The Feast of Pentecost is May 24th, Next Sunday. We will have ONE Service at 10:00AM followed by our Chili Cookoff at 11:00AM. Please wear your Red St. Stephen's Tee Shirts.



Summer Schedule

May 24, 2026, Pentecost Sunday, we will have one service at 10:00am in the Sanctuary followed by the Annual Chili Cookoff at 11:00am in the Parish Hall.

May 31, 2026, 9:00am service in the Garden Chapel and 10:00am service in the Sanctuary.

The 9:00am and 10:00am services will continue throughout the Summer and will end in the Fall at a date that has yet to be determined. In an effort to stay on time, we will need volunteers to help take down the Garden Chapel electronics so that Father David and Doug can begin the 10:00am.

Calling All 2026 Graduates!!

Is someone in your household graduating this year?

Please let us know your graduate's name and what level of school they are completing.

We would like to honor our graduates from preschool, elementary school, middle school, high school and college on Sunday, May 31st, so get your name to us soon.

Just email ststoffice@gmail.com, or call the church office at 863-646-6115, or slip us a note.



**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, Jr Warden
Bookkeeper: Cathy Zielinski, Treasurer: Jack Vonesh,
Secretary: Karen Beasley, Office Secretary: Charlie Bradford

Dog Treats

The Dog Treat Crew will meet again this 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.

Needed items:

- Pumpkin purée
- Unsweetened Applesauce
- Old-fashioned Oats
- Unsalted Peanuts

Most of the Dog Treats we make go to the puppies at the Polk County Bully Project to show them that we care and the remainder of the treats we sell and give the money in St. Stephen's name to the PCBP.



Join the St. Stephen's Choir!

Are you looking for a meaningful way to give back to St. Stephen's Church? Do you enjoy singing in the shower or in your car?

Then you're exactly who we're looking for!

As Father David says, being part of the choir is a wonderful way to give back while getting to know the fun and welcoming people in our choir family.

No formal experience is needed—the main talent we're looking for is **interest and enthusiasm!**

For more information about joining, please contact:
Susie Stewart or **Charlie** in the church office.

Come make a joyful noise with us—we'd love to have you!



Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will meet this week at The Olive Garden in Lakeside Village. Our luncheon will begin at 11:30am on May 21st and should be well attended. Please let us know if you are planning to attend by calling Debbie Bradford at 305-304-2548 or the Office at 863-646-6115.



2026 Altar Flower Dedications

We invite you to honor loved ones or commemorate special occasions in 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.



Welcome to our Church

May 10, 2026

Sanctuary	9:00am	63
Worship Center	11:00am	43
Total		106

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

- 05/19/26 Vestry Meeting 6:00pm
- 05/21/26 Lunch Bunch 11:30am
Location Olive Garden
- 05/24/26 Pentecost Sunday one
Service 10:00am Sanctuary
Followed by our Chili Cook off!
- 05/25/26 Memorial Day Office
Closed
- 05/31/26 Summer Schedule Begins
9:00am Garden Chapel,
10:00am in Sanctuary

St. Stephen's Yard Sale – Save the Date!

St. Stephen's Yard Sale will be held a little later this year due to other church commitments.

Date: Saturday, June 6, 2026
Time: 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

We will be accepting donations on **Thursday, June 4th and Friday, June 5th** with setup taking place on Friday.

Come out and enjoy:

- A wide variety of yard sale items
- Food booth outside featuring hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks
- St. Stephen's Famous Bake Sale



Verse of the Week John 17:11

Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.

May Birthdays

- 5 Melissa Eijo**
Elizabeth Koshi
- 7 Charlie Bradford**
- 9 Michael Englert**
- 10 Kevin Shelton**
- 14 Kaelynn Hiber**
- 15 Jim Heal**
- 16 Ed Knox, Carla Sauve**
- 18 Betty Calhoun**
- 19 Marcia Heath**
- 21 Rick Rahn**
- 23 Janice Olson**
- 29 Bill Monts de Oca**

May Anniversaries

- 1 Curtis & Janice Olsen**
- 8 Roger & Mary Statzer**
- 15 Ken & Judy Horne**
Bill & Jackie Monts de Oca
- 27 Tim & Mary Trimbath**

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, Debbie Bradford**, 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, Cathi DiGigiaco, (**Michele Giberson's** Aunt) **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), **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, Lynn Whitt, 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>17</p> <p>9:00am Sanctuary 10:15am Rector's Class, Sm Group Rm 11:00am Worship Center</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer 6:00pm Vestry Meeting 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:00am Holy Eucharist 12:00pm Bible Study 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:30am Lunch Bunch at Olive Garden 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Office Closed</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Pentecost One Service 10:00am Sanctuary Chili Cook Off and Winner receives the Chili Apron!</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Memorial Day 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:00am Holy Eucharist 12:00pm Bible Study 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Office Closed</p>