

St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church

1820 E. County Rd. 540A

Lakeland, FL 33813

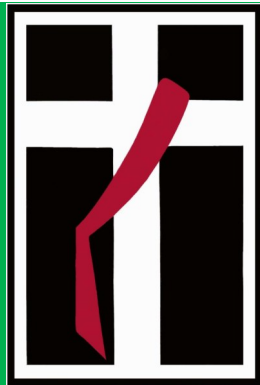
863-646-6115

Office Hrs. M-Th 9am-3pm

FYI 2026

July 12, 2026 Vol 26 Issue 28

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Proper 10



Thank you 



Thank you 

VBS 2026 was a tremendous success! No words can truly describe the joy of seeing so many children having fun, feeling loved and cared for, and learning about God.

I want to sincerely thank everyone who helped make this week possible. We were blessed with an incredible number of volunteers this year. Whether you helped decorate, cut out materials, lead a station, guide the children, prepare or serve at the spaghetti dinners, or assisted in any other way, it took every one of us working together to make VBS such a wonderful success.

I am truly blessed to be part of a congregation that sees the value of investing in our children and helping them grow in their faith through Vacation Bible School.

Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your time, your hard work, and your servant's heart. May God bless each of you for the love you showed to our children and to one another.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Karen Spiller

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch in July will be this Thursday on 7/16/25, 11:30am at Broadway Diner in Bartow. If you are interested in coming please call Debbie at 305-304-2548 to let her know.

Broadway Diner

1380 Broadway Ave N, Bartow, FL 33830 · 6.0 mi
(863) 537-7647



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



Summer Project

These Bartow High School IB graduates decided that rather than just bask in the summer sun they would start a food pantry for those in need. After collecting the food they were able to distribute the collected food to help 25 families in need, and thanked us for allowing us to use our campus to stage from.

St. Stephen's Blessing of the Backpacks!

8/12/26
10:00am

All are welcome for a special service to ask God's blessings on our students and teachers at the start of the new school year. Bring your backpacks, bags, or binders, receive a special blessing and some school supply gifts to help you have a great start to a great new year!

Welcome to our Church

July 5, 2026

Garden Chapel	9:00am	38
Sanctuary	10:00am	40
Total		78

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

- 07/16/26 Lunch Bunch at the Broadway Diner in Bartow 11:30am
- 07/21/26 Vestry Meeting is Canceled for July
- 07/26/26 Strike the (VBS) Set
- 08/04/26 Fr. David Shoulder Surgery
- 08/09/26 Back to School Sunday and Second Sunday Brunch



Strike the Set Work Party

After another incredibly successful VBS, it's time to "Strike the Set!"

We invite everyone to join us **after the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, July 26**, as we work together to take down the decorations and pack everything away.

We'll have snacks and drinks available for everyone who comes to help, so roll up your sleeves and join us for a fun time of fellowship and teamwork.

Thank you for helping make VBS such a success. We appreciate your willingness to serve!

God bless!

Verse of the Week: Psalm 119:108
Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon my path.

<u>July Birthdays</u>		<u>St. Stephen's Prayer List</u> <u>(Parish Members are in Bold)</u>	
1	Mary Roach	<u>Prayer Needs:</u> 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), 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, Cory Davis, Annie Delling, Cathi DiGigiacomo, (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), 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), Mary Peoples, 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, Dailia Walker, Meg & Rhys Wallace, Lynn Whitt, Lindsay Zielinski. <u>Homebound or Skilled Nursing Facility:</u> Tony Barfield, Susan Cardman, Rick Rahn, Jo Willey, Sandra Mewborn	
2	Francis Smalling		
5	Larry Schuster		
6	Juanita Spence		
8	Susan Barham		
11	Tim Trimbath		
16	Erica DeMan, Judy Horne		
19	Sue DeMan		
	Stacy Englert		
	Jennifer Williams		
22	Tony Barfield		
	Gary Westberry		
23	Sue St Amour		
24	Jameson Ausmus		
25	Fr. David Peoples		
28	Debbie Bradford		
30	Ken Horne, Glen Richardi		
<u>July Anniversaries</u>			
2	David & Patricia Dresser		
6	Francis & Loreto Smalling		
23	Glen & Cathy Zielinski		



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12 9:00am in the Garden Chapel 10:00am Worship Center	13 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	14 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	15 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:00am Holy Eucharist 8pm Online Compline	16 8:00am Online Morning Prayer Lunch Bunch at Broadway Diner in Bartow 8pm Online Compline	17 8:00am Online Morning Prayer OFFICE CLOSED 8pm Online Compline	18 Office Closed
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