

St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church

1820 E. County Rd. 540A

Lakeland, FL 33813

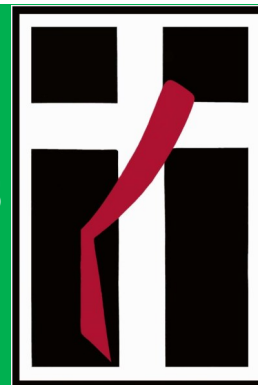
863-646-6115

Office Hrs. M-Th 9am-3pm

FYI 2026

August 30, 2026 Vol 26 Issue 35

Fourteenth Sunday after
Pentecost, Proper 17



Summer in the Garden Finale & Cookout

This Sunday

This will be our final **Summer in the Garden** worship service. Following the **10:00 a.m.** service, we'll celebrate the end of summer with a church cookout featuring **hamburgers and hot dogs**.

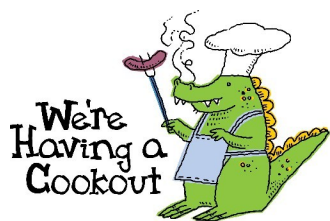
If you're able to help, we'd appreciate donations of side dishes such as **baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw**, or any other favorite picnic dish that would complement our meal.

We hope you'll join us for a wonderful time of food, fellowship, and celebration!

Beginning Sunday, September 6, we will return to our regular Sunday worship schedule:

- **9:00 a.m.** – Sanctuary
- **11:00 a.m.** – Worship Center

We look forward to celebrating with you on August 30 and seeing everyone back on our regular schedule in September!



VBS Spaghetti Dinner September 1st 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.

Talbot House

The ladies who prepare and serve the Talbot House clients wanted to thank you for all of the contributions of Brownies past months, the 200 residents that were served were grateful.

If you are able, please bring brownies to the kitchen next Sunday or no later than noon 9/8/26.

WHERE BROKEN LIVES
FIND HOPE

TALBOT
HOUSE
MINISTRIES



*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



The Caregivers and Grief Group

The Caregivers and Grief Group will meet next month on **September 8th at 2:00 PM** in the Small Groups Room.

If you or someone you know would benefit from speaking with others who are experiencing grief, stress from a loss, or the challenges of caring for a loved one, please keep this group in mind.

A landmark 1999 study published in **JAMA** described caregivers as the "hidden patients." The study found that highly stressed caregivers had a 63% higher risk of death than non-caregivers during the years following the loss of a disabled spouse. Research has also shown that caregivers often experience higher levels of depression, sleep deprivation, social isolation, and financial hardship.

You do not have to carry those burdens alone. We are here to help.

Prayer LIST

Please help us keep our Prayer List current and accurate. If there have been any changes to names or prayer requests, please let the church office know.

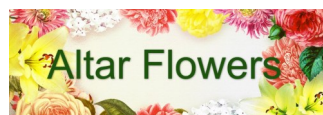
We have plenty of room in the FYI section, but we want to ensure that our Prayer List reflects the most up-to-date information possible.

Thank you for helping us care for and pray for one another.

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.



Are you Called? The Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK)

No special spiritual attributes are needed to become a Daughter – only a sincere desire to draw nearer to God and to help others do the same. We are a group of Christian women who adopt a Rule of Life based on the promises of our Baptismal Covenant:

To continue in the Apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers.

To persevere in resisting evil, and when we fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord.

To proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.

To seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself.

To strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being.

We are women living a Rule of Prayer and Service to our neighbors. Parishioners can look to us for love and help in time of need or loneliness. We seek to walk with God as our guide and try to draw those with whom we come in contact into the church. We are women who work to spread Christ's Kingdom here on earth. We can never forget that prayer is the foundation from which our service grows.

Discernment classes begin Sunday September 13, 2026. Please let any member wearing this cross know that you are interested.



Our new Automated External Defibrillator (AED) has arrived and is now mounted on the wall in the Parish Hall, just outside the kitchen. It is clearly marked and readily accessible should an emergency ever arise.

Fortunately, we have never needed an AED at our parish, and we sincerely hope that we never will. However, these lifesaving devices have become commonplace in churches, schools, businesses, and other public buildings because sudden cardiac emergencies can happen anywhere and without warning. When used promptly, an AED can make a critical difference while emergency medical help is on the way.

Although AEDs are designed to provide simple, step-by-step voice instructions, it is helpful to become familiar with the device before an emergency occurs. Once our one-winged superhero, Fr. David, has recovered from shoulder surgery, we will hold a training session to demonstrate how the AED works and what to do in the event of a cardiac emergency.

Dog Treats for Bully Project

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. **PLEASE HELP The CUPBOARD IS BARE**

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.



08/30/26 *Last Sunday for 9:00 in the Garden, final Cookout of the Summer after the 10:00am*

09/01/26 *VBS Spaghetti Dinner 5-7pm*

09/06/26 *Return to 9:00am in the Sanctuary and 11:00am in the Worship Center.*

09/07/26 *Labor Day Office Closed*

09/08/26 *Caregivers Group 2:00pm*



Welcome to our Church

August 23, 2026

Garden Chapel	9:00am	30
Sanctuary	10:00am	44
Total		74

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: Romans 12:12

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.



<u>August Birthdays</u> 31 Deacon Doug Jump <u>September Birthdays</u> 5 Judy Wilder 6 Susan Cardman 7 Robin Williams Adams Alex Trimbath, Gail Baldrige 10 Steve Naples, Janell Repsher 11 Andrew Thompson 12 Janet Bingham 14 Sharon Crosdale, Troy DeMan Kaitlyn Trimbath 21 Stephen Calhoun 22 Donna Hunt 24 Nelson Rumpel, 25 Jarrett Sabine, David Trimbath 29 Julie Petterson <u>September Anniversaries</u> 2 Doug & Michele Jump 6 Gary & Beverly Powell 13 Walter & Eleanor Thomas 17 Steve & Victoria Naples 27 David & Melanie Vadzemnieks	St. Stephen's Prayer List <u>(Parish Members are in Bold)</u> <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), Janet Bingham, Shannon Black, Lynn Staffier (from Kathy Leahy), Rebecca Bloodworth (Louis Bloodworth's Daughter in Law), 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), Kim & 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, 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
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00am in the Garden Chapel 10:00am Sanctuary Cook out 	31 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	1 8am Online Morning Prayer 5-7 VBS Spaghetti Dinner 8pm Online Compline	2 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:00am Holy Eucharist 8pm Online Compline	3 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	4 8:00am Online Morning Prayer OFFICE CLOSED 8pm Online Compline	5 Office Closed
6 9:00am in the Sanctuary 10:15am Rector's Class, Sm Group Rm 11:00am Worship Center	7 8am Online Morning Prayer Labor Day, Office Closed  8pm Online Compline	8 8am Online Morning Prayer 2:00pm Caregivers Group 3:30pm Talbot House 8pm Online Compline	9 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:00am Holy Eucharist 8pm Online Compline	10 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	11 8:00am Online Morning Prayer OFFICE CLOSED 8pm Online Compline	12 Office Closed