

St. Stephen's
Episcopal Church

1820 E. County Rd. 540A

Lakeland, FL 33813

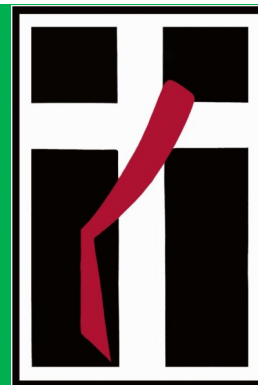
863-646-6115

Office Hrs. M-Th 9am-3pm

FYI 2026

August 9, 2026 Vol 26 Issue 32

Eleventh Sunday after
Pentecost, Proper 14



St. Stephen's Blessing of the Backpacks!

This
Sunday
August 9th
At Both
Services

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!

Talbot House Dinner Update

The Talbot House Crew will be taking a break during the month of August and will resume serving on **Tuesday, September 8th**. Please **do not bring brownies** for this Tuesday's Talbot House Dinner. Brownies will be needed again when dinners resume in September. **God bless you all for your generosity and faithful support!** We truly appreciate everything you do.

*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

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.



The Caregivers and Grief Group

The Caregivers and Grief Group will meet next month on **August 11th 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.



Summer in the Garden Finale & Cookout

Sunday, August 30

Sunday, August 30, 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**.

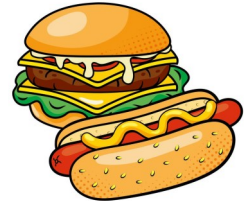
If you're able to help, we'd appreciate donations of side dishes such as **baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw**, or any other favorite picnic dish that would complement our meal.

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!



08/09/26 *Back to School Sunday and Second Sunday Brunch*

08/11/26 *Polk County Schools begin*

08/18/26 *Vestry Meeting 6-8pm*

08/20/26 *Lunch Bunch at Ling's 11:30*

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.*

August 2, 2026

Garden Chapel	9:00am	41
Sanctuary	10:00am	45
Total		86

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 10:9

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.



Flowers on the Altar are Given by Joanie Boyd in Loving Memory of Brouck Boyd

August Birthdays

- 5 Roger Doyle
- 6 Jan Benware
- 8 Bruce Nelson
- 10 Mary Ann Corbin
- 13 Joyce Brock
- 14 Rita Yenney
- 18 Inga Rutledge
- 19 Jim Beasley
Ray Spiller
- 20 Art Rowbotham
- 21 Helen Vogt
- 22 Pete Wesley
- 25 Bill Baggett
- 26 Jonathan Robertson
- 28 Christopher Trimbath
Cathy Zielinski
- 29 Trudi Lithgow
- 31 Deacon Doug Jump



August Anniversaries

- 3 Fr. David & Lula Peoples
- 9 John & Susan MacGilvray
- 11 Italo & Janet Casini

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), 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 Herrnkind (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, Lynn Staffier (from Kathy Leahy), Carol Starling, Marion Stewart, 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
9 9:00am in the Garden Chapel 10:00am Worship Center Blessing of the Backpacks, Both Services	10 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	11 8am Online Morning Prayer Grief/Caregiver Group 2:00pm 8pm Online Compline	12 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:00am Holy Eucharist 8pm Online Compline	13 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	14 8:00am Online Morning Prayer OFFICE CLOSED 8pm Online Compline	15 Office Closed
16 9:00am in the Garden Chapel 10:00am Worship Center	17 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	18 8am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	19 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 11:00am Holy Eucharist 8pm Online Compline	20 8:00am Online Morning Prayer 8pm Online Compline	21 8:00am Online Morning Prayer OFFICE CLOSED 8pm Online Compline	22 Office Closed