

**The Spirit of St. Stephen's Weekly for July 19 – July 26, 2020**

**Congregation Council** approves causes to be featured monthly. **July Helping Hands** In the Spring of 2015 it came to the church staff's attention that St. Stephen's had no funds available specifically for helping members of our own congregation who might fall into financial hardship of any kind. It was this conversation that led to the establishment of the Helping Hands Fund. Moneys donated to this fund will be dispensed at the discretion of a group of staff, council, and financial leadership representatives, appointed by the Congregational Council, who will assess each special circumstance and evaluate the best use of the funds to assist in the most helpful way possible.

**Hospitalized:** Mike Brittingham, Home

**Christian Sympathy** is extended to Lynn Helton upon the death of her father, Robert Jones. May the peace and comfort of God's Word be with her and her family assuring them of the knowledge and truth of the Resurrection.

**Congratulations** to Aaron and Andi Rawl on the birth of their son, James Caughman Rawl born July 2, 2020.

**Join us for the Wednesday Eucharist Service** held at 12:30PM in the gym to enhance your weekly worship experience and to share God's Word in a unique, shortened, but spiritual time of worship. **Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>** "Love Does Not Insist On Its Own Way"

**Graduating Seniors:** On August 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be recognizing our high school and college seniors that are graduating this year. If you have a graduate in your family, please email Shannon their information (where they are graduating from and their future plans).

**A Class for adults** will be offered in the gym on Wednesday evenings in July at 6PM. Pastor Pat will be teaching the class titled **Who is this Man? The Unpredictable Impact of the Inescapable Jesus.** This study helps us see how Jesus has impacted the world like no other person in history and why it makes a difference in our everyday life.

July 22: Why It's A Small World After All

July 29: Three Days That Changed the World

**Mission Lexington** Our Pentecost to Reformation Food Drive is underway with 1,207 lbs. donated. The goal is to collect 5,000 lbs. during this time. Our food donations for this year total **2,689.5 lbs.** Please place your food donations in the food barrel next to the elevator in the admin wing. All food items and pet food are being accepted. The following items are the most needed: Canned Fruit, Beef Stew, Canned Chicken, Peanut Butter & Jelly. Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Corn, Chili, Pork & beans, Canned Soups, Rice, Dog & Cat Food.

**Remember even one can of food will feed someone who is hungry.** Mission Lexington is also in urgent need of plastic bags. Bring your used plastic grocery bags to the church and leave them in the food barrel. Thank you again for your support. Point of contact: Ron Redd Cell 803-360-0241 Rredd7848@gmail.com.

**Our Stewardship of Attendance last week:** (10:00) 62  
Wednesday Eucharist (12:30) 28

**Our Stewardship of Offerings for 2020 and Debt Retirement:**

**Total Owed on Principal: \$1,792,000.00**  
Amount Paid on Principal for 2020: \$240,000.00  
Total Received Building Fund 2020: \$114,633.00

General Offering Totals for 2020: \$433,679.06  
Expenses to date 2020 \$439,242.21

**Our weekly offerings are about returning back to God a portion of what he has first given us. We are able to be generous givers when God is at work in our hearts.**

**St. Stephen's Activities for this week include:**

TODAY	<b>10AM: Worship Services (Gym and Online)</b> 6PM: Council Meeting (Zoom)
Monday	12:30PM: AA meeting (Social Hall)
Tuesday	
Wednesday	<b>12:30PM: Wednesday Worship Service (Gym and Online)</b> FBS (Family Bible School) – Online 6PM: Adult Class: Who is this Man? (Gym) Jr. & Sr. Youth FBS Check-in 7:30PM: AA/AI-Anon meetings (Social Hall/Parlor)
Thursday	7PM: AA meeting (Social Hall)
Friday	
Saturday	9:30-4:30PM: Synod Assembly (Social Hall)
Sunday	<b>10AM: Worship Services (Gym and Online)</b>

Even though we are not together for VBS/FBS, we would like to continue to support Because International's mission - The Shoe that Grows. Over 1.5 billion people suffer from soil transmitted diseases worldwide. Without shoes, children are especially vulnerable to soil-transmitted diseases and parasites that can cause illness and even death. Children who get sick miss school, can't help their families, and suffer needlessly. And since children's feet grow so quickly, they often outgrow donated shoes within a year, leaving them once again exposed to illness and disease. The Shoe that Grows and change that. These shoes expand in 3 places, can grow 5 sizes, and are made from long-lasting materials. With a \$20 donation, you can provide a pair of shoes to a needy child. You aren't just buying them a pair of shoes - you are keeping them healthy, giving them the opportunity to attend school more, and boosting their confidence! You can send a check to the church made out to SSLC (please mark them The Shoe that Grows), give via Givelify or through our website--sslc.org