



St. Stephen's Lutheran Church ELCA

***– – The Friendly Visitor – –
2025***



***SSELCA: A Family that together prays, teaches, loves, and serves
God and our neighbors.***

† To the Congregation †

THANK YOU

Dear church family,
Thank you so much for the calls, cards, visits, meals, and prayers after my recent surgery. Ken and I are so blessed to be a part of this church family and we thank God for all of you.
With love and appreciation,
Janice Eckard

Thank You

Thanks to all of you for your cards, calls, visits and prayers during the recent illness and passing of our brother Stephen "Spike" Carpenter.
Blessings, Kathy Smith & Pat Patton

LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA

* UPDATED * FOOD PANTRY DRIVE LIST
Please help us restock the shelves in the Food Pantry! Social Ministry will host a Food Drive for the next three months to help us feed folks in our Community. The numbers of families keep increasing that we see every week, we need your help.

Please place the following items for NOVEMBER on the table in the sanctuary. Thank you in advance for your donations.



- Cereal - Any variety
- Canned Corn
- Canned Pineapple
- Canned Tuna

UPDATE

Stay tuned for Items needed in December
Social Ministry Committee

WELCOME New Members

Let's extend a BIG warm welcome to our officially recognized St. Stephen's family members:

- Jim & Neda Deal
- Joe Pollock

We feel truly blessed to have you all join us!



NEXT SUNDAY, November 9th at 10:30AM before worship we will have our CONGREGATIONAL MEETING. Please be sure and bring the letter and budget that were mailed to you. If you did not receive one, or need one, just let Emily in the church office know and another will be provided. Thank you!

FRIENDS FAITH

Friends of Faith will meet at JD's BBQ in Lenoir on Sat. 11/08 at 6PM. Please RSVP to Carol Talley at carolmtalley@gmail.com. If anybody would like to get together for Christmas and be in charge of getting a restaurant, please let me know and I will send out an email. If not, we will not be meeting in December. We will meet January 17th for a planning session. More information to follow. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!



**American
Red Cross**



**FLU SHOT
CLINICS 2025**

A Heartfelt Thank You for your unwavering support of our ministries and events at SSELCA! Your participation and sharing of these events helped us achieve our Blood Drive goal and successful Flu Clinic! Together, we are making a difference and saving lives in our community!



Thank you so, so much for all who decorated a trunk, cooked/served food, or donated candy to our Trunk-or-Treat! What a fun and sweet time with ALL in our precious community!

† Mission & Outreach †

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

60 Men, women,
and children were
fed at our October
Community Meal

Our Food Pantry provided an
outstanding 163 households with
non-perishable food items in the
month of October! Thank you all
for the continued support for
this growing need in our com-
munity.
YOU help make it possible!

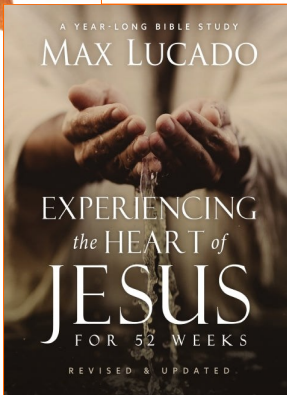
Our Outdoor
Homeless Meal fed
45 people in our
local homeless
community last
month in October!

October Outdoor Homeless Meal



† Bible Studies & Ministry Group News †

Women, Coffee, & Jesus Tuesday's at 9:30AM in the Bible Study Room



Would you like to join the **Tuesday Women's Bible Study**? ALL women are invited and happily welcomed to come and jump in the discussing of 'Experiencing the Heart of Jesus' by Max Lucado. In this Study, Although Jesus is familiar, and we know details of his life, could we consider him a companion or dear friend? Do his mannerisms and habits rub off on us because we spend so much time with him? *Experiencing the Heart of Jesus for 52 Weeks* is about walking with Jesus so closely that we become like him, that we imitate him. This may be purchased at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

Tuesday, Nov. 4th
Week 48: The Brand-New You
♦ 1 Corinthians 15:12-25
♦ 1 John 3:1-6

Tuesday, Nov. 11th
Week 49: Amazed at Jesus
♦ Revelations 1:9-18
♦ 2 Thessalonians 1:6-10

Tuesday, Nov. 18th
Week 50: Crossing the Threshold
♦ Matthew 25:1-13
♦ 1 Thessalonians 5:1-8

Tuesday, Nov. 25th
Week 51: Fishers of Men
♦ Luke 5:1-11
♦ James 1:22-27

Deeply Rooted Lectionary Bible Study Wednesday's at 10:30AM in the Bible Study Room

Engage in deeper thought-provoking discussions on readings from the Old Testament to the New Testament at our inclusive weekly Bible Study. Join us as we root ourselves in the teachings of God's Word together!

Wednesday, Nov. 5th
♦ Job 19:23-27a
♦ Psalm 17:1-9
♦ 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
♦ Luke 20:27-38

Wednesday, Nov. 12th
♦ Malachi 4:1-2a
♦ Psalm 98
♦ 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
♦ Luke 21:5-19

Wednesday, Nov. 19th
♦ Jeremiah 23:1-6
♦ Psalm 46
♦ Colossians 1:11-20
♦ Luke 23:33-43

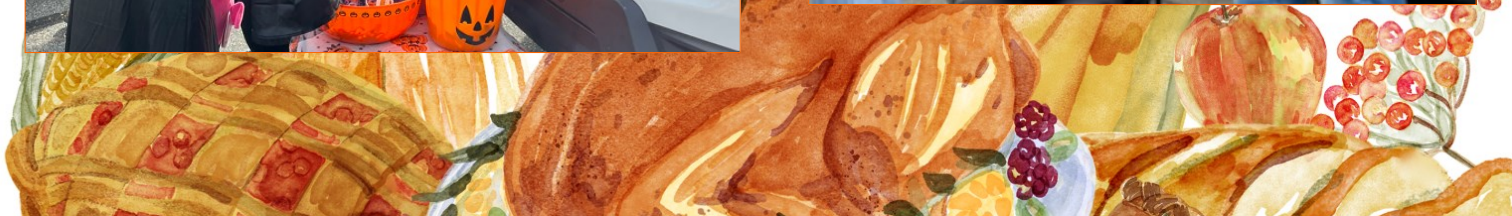
Wednesday, Nov. 26th
♦ Isaiah 2:1-5
♦ Psalm 122
♦ Romans 13:11-14
♦ Matthew 24:36-44



Trunk-OR-Treat 2025



Thank you so, so much for all who decorated a trunk, cooked/served food, or donated candy to our Trunk-or-Treat! What a fun and sweet time with ALL in our precious community!



Remember in Prayer



Nursing Homes:

Brookdale Lenoir– (Lenoir) Angie Asherbraner #16

Graceview Retirement Home– (Newton) Guy Miller #3

Trinity Ridge– (Mountain View) Tammie Falcone #714

Trinity Village– (Hickory) Mary Alice Punch #512, Lois Stine #202

Wilkes Assisted Living– (North Wilkesboro) Sylvia Hoke #206 and
Loyd Hoke #301A

At Home: Leon & Ramona Baker, Helen Miller, Hilda Eckard, Lorene Fox,
Glenda Kanupp, and Doris Jones

Family and Friends: Dylan Godfrey, Ben Godfrey, Guy Miller, Janet Stinson, Tim Hollar, Andrea Keast, June Yount, Diedre, Tami Elmore, Helen Miller, David Crump, Mark Ewing, Derrick O'Brien, Richard Powell, Bill Hill, Alan Pruitt, Kim Johnson, Jackie Meadows, Krystal Sharpe, Sydney Wilson, Heather Rushing, Chuck Witherspoon, Glenda Kanupp, Lois Stine, Hilda Eckard, Billie Roth, Melissa Zarou, Carl Baker, Gene Gibson, Doris Jones, Roger Brittain, Gray Standfield, Cindy Powell, Marge Chandler, Teddy Hefner, Lauren Eckard, David Pruett, Kathy Powell, Roxanne Duncan, John Whitener, Kermit Eckard, Scarlet Creech, Bryon Patton, Tammie Falcone, Owen Ferguson, Revonda Bowman, John Jones, Janice Eckard, Ted Chandler, Hawk, Gene Baker, David Waters, and Tristan Martino.

Bereavement: The Family of Jenny Eckard and The Family Freda Childers, The Family of Maria Stinson Scronce, The Family of Stephen 'Spike' Carpenter, The Family of Margie Isenhour, and The Family of Brady White.

Others: First responders and health care workers who take care of us. All who are hungry. All who are homeless. All those affected by storms. All those affected by the violence in our country and abroad. The People of Ukraine and Russia. The People of Turkey and Syria. The People affected by the wildfires in Maui. The People of Israel. The People affected by Hurricane Helene. The People affected by the flash flooding in Texas.

Armed Forces:

U.S. Navy: IS2 Chris Powell;

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

Attendance:

Barry Sullivan, Dee Fry, Robert Ollis, Steve Baker, Donald Bumgarner, Deborah Pruitt
Corkey Miller, Bill Duncan and Phil Barton

Meeting Called to order by Barry Sullivan

Devotion Given by: Dee Fry

Treasurers Report: Phil Barton Additional Funds given by the Yount Family

Ministry Teams Report

Christian Ed/Evangelism/Youth-October 24th 2-4 Truck or Treat in back parking lot-
Donations for candy needed

Congregational Life-met on 9/15 to discuss plans for the covered dish lunch on 10/19

Property report on file

Social Ministry-report on file

Stewardship report on file

Worship and Music-report on file

No Old Business

New Business

Meeting on October 29th at 5:30 with Phil Tonnesen

Annual Congregational Meeting on 11/9 before 10:30 service

Council Approval of 2026 Budget

Motion-Robert Ollis

2nd- Dee Frye

All council approved



SCAN ME
TO FIND
OUT MORE!

INSPIRATION FROM ABOVE
WORSHIP THAT'S DOWN TO EARTH

✝ Scan QR Code below with
camera phone to give Offering
to SSELCA ✝



SCAN ME

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, E.L.C.A.

2259 12th Avenue NE Hickory, North Carolina 28601

Telephone #828-322-3211 Fax #828-322-8311

Email: office@sselcahy.org Website: www.sselca.org

Radio Station: 94.3FM

Office Hours:

- Monday-Friday -

8:30AM-1:30PM