

**Connecting People with Jesus...
In Us... Among Us... Through Us**



ST. STEPHENS

LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

2304 Springs Road NE
Hickory, NC 28601

Church: 828-256-9865
www.sslcms.org

School: 828-256-2166
www.sslswarriors.org

St. Stephens Staff

David Ziehr, Pastor + Shea Pennington, Pastor
David Guelzow, Visitation Pastor + Tristan Jones, Vicar
Ross Chiles, Principal + Randall Cline, Youth Ministry
Donna Lee, Children's Ministry + Brandon Buff, Facilities and Technology
Robert Smith, Traditional Music Director + David Day, Praise Team Director
Jadi Gurganious, Mission Facilitator + Savannah Lee, Communication Coordinator
Sharon Maynor, Administrator + Tashia Fisher, Church Administrative Asst.
Debbi Becker, School Administrative Asst.
Tiffany Sigmon, Receptionist & Visitor Engagement Coordinator
Kristy Smith, New Member Coordinator

All Saints

November 1 & 2, 2025

Welcome to Worship

We pray you will find the presence of God in our worship. We ask that all of our members and all guest to please print your name in the book passed along the pew before the offering. Guest, we encourage you to fill out a Connect Card also.

Holy Communion: We welcome all who have been instructed in the faith, who believe in Jesus Christ as their Savior and in the true presence of His body and blood in the sacrament. If you are a guest today and would like to participate in the Sacrament, please consult a pastor or elder beforehand with any questions.
We do offer white grape juice and gluten free bread for those who need it.

Children are welcome in our worship services. As an alternative, a nursery for infants through 2 years old is available in Room #101. The nursery is staffed from 8am to 12pm on Sunday mornings. For assistance, please see an usher.

Children's Worship (preschool & early elementary) is offered in the choir room during the 10:30am worship. Children will be dismissed before the sermon and return for offering.

Fire Exits: In addition to the main entrance, fire exits are located on both sides of the chancel and are opened for quicker exit from the church after worship.

Broadcast & Photography: Just a reminder that our services are live streamed on YouTube and may include images of the congregation. St. Stephens Lutheran Church reserves the right to use any photograph/video taken at any service on church grounds or event sponsored by St. Stephens Lutheran Church. A person attending who does not wish to have their image recorded for distribution should make their wishes known to the photographer. By participating in a St. Stephens Lutheran Church service or event or by failing to notify your desire to not have your photograph used, you are agreeing to release and the use of your picture.

Sunday School - 9:15am - 10:15am

For room location assistance, please see an usher.

Little Lambs /Preschool (3 & 4yrs) & Kinders:---- Ed Wing Riser Room---Martha Propst, Jane Guelzow, Sue Seabock & Cynthia Hewitt
Kid Connect/ Grades 1 & 2:-----Ed Wing #222----- Andrea Trent
Kid Connect/ Grades 3-5:-----Ed Wing #220 -----Teresa Ritchie
Jr. High Life Group: Led by Randall & Shannon Cline-----Youth House
Sr. High Life Group: Darel Reese & Jon Guelzow-----Youth House
Young Adult Life Group: Led by Taryn Cline & Dalton Powell-----Peace House
Adults: Led by Pastor/Vicar-----Scripture-----Fellowship Hall
Adults-Men's Bible Study: Led by Dwight Hollar-----2 Peter----School Bldg. #108
Adults: Led by Caleb Taylor/Katie Clontz-----Bible Lessons-----Choir Room
Adults: Led by Dean Ledbetter-----Psalm-----School Bldg. Room #109
Adults-Ladies: Led by Regina Propst---*The Best Yes: Making Wise Decisions in the Midst of Endless Demands* by Lisa Terkeurst-----Parlor
New Member Class-----Conference Room

Stay Connected to St. Stephens Lutheran

SATURDAY

5:30pm – Saturday Evening Worship

SUNDAY

8:00am – Traditional Worship & Holy Communion

9:15am – Family Bible Hour

10:30am – Contemporary Worship

NO Pickle Ball

6:00pm – Lifegroup (Dwight Hollar) – Conference Room

MONDAY

9:00am – Lifelight (Pastor Guelzow) – Conference Room

10:00am – With Our Hands Ministry

10:30am – LWML Executive Board – Peace House

5:00pm – School Endowment Board – Parlor

7:00pm – Men's Bible Study – Youth House

TUESDAY

1:00pm – Comfort Dog Ministry – Conference Room

4:00pm – Lifegroup (Pastor Guelzow) – Parlor

4:00PM – MID-WEEK CONGREGATIONAL NEWS DEADLINE

6:00pm – Praise Team Rehearsal

6:00pm – Comfort Dog Ministry – Conference Room

6:00pm – Lifegroup Leader Meeting – Youth House

WEDNESDAY

9:00am – 3:00pm – Quilters – Conference Room

10:00am – Woman's Bible Study – Youth House

6:00pm – Lifegroup (Paul Miller) – Youth House

6:30pm – Mary Circle – Conference Room

THURSDAY

NOON – BULLETIN & SCREEN ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE

10:30am – Lifegroup – (Larry Bowman) – Conference Room

5:30pm – SSLS Family Academic Night – School

5:45pm – Handbell Choir – Sanctuary

7:00pm – Parish Choir – Sanctuary/Choir Room

7:00pm – Lifegroup – (Richard Starnes) – Parlor

FRIDAY

10:00am – With Our Hands Ministry – Youth House

2:00pm – Lifegroup – David Rittenhouse's

5:30pm – Halo Bible Study – Youth House

SATURDAY

5:30pm – Saturday Evening Worship & Holy Communion

SUNDAY

8:00am – Traditional Worship

9:15am – Family Bible Hour

10:30am – Contemporary Worship & Holy Communion

12:00pm – Confirmation Unit Check In

12:00-3:00pm – Middle School Hangtime – Youth House

3:00pm – Pickle Ball – Beginners and Families

4:00pm – Pickle Ball – Experienced Pickles

5:00-8:00pm – High School Hangtime – Youth House

6:00pm – Lifegroup (Dwight Hollar) – Conference Room

Prayer on Entering

Almighty and Eternal God, You make us saints by calling us to faith and cleansing us in the waters of Holy Baptism. We give You thanks for the faithful who have gone before us and for the witness they bore to Christ. Inspire us through their example. May we imitate their faithfulness—learning from their lives, honoring their legacy, and following Jesus. Strengthen us to walk in holiness until that day when, together with all the saints, we share in the indescribable joys You have prepared for those who love You and are gathered into the Resurrection and the Life of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Flowers

Flowers placed at the altar are given to the glory of God by Terry & Joye Hollar in honor and celebration of their 32nd wedding anniversary on November 6.

Greeters

November 1st - Chris, Danyelle & Connor Wyatt
November 2nd - 8am- Sharon Little
November 2nd - 10:30am- Micheal & Katie Vaughn

November 8th - Keith & Sue Binns
November 9th - 8am - Pat Wilson
November 9th - 10:30am - April Drake

Communion Assistants

November 2 8:00am - Ralph Mueller & Todd Little

November 9 10:30am - Chris Barringer, Eric Kent, Eddie Warren

Nursery Volunteers – 10:30 am

November 2 - Teresa Ritchie November 9 - Shannon Cline

Our Response to God Last Week

Last Sunday's Attendance - 581 (86, 95, 400) Sunday School - 150
General Fund: \$27,168.79 (Regular Offerings needed each week: \$28,306.91)
Church Expansion Fund/Building Fund: \$9,030.51
School Endowment Fund: \$195.00
Church Expansion/Building Fund Funds Needed: \$4.4 Million
Church Expansion/Building Fund Account Balance: \$1,930,813.42
Church Expansion Bills Paid So Far: \$1,042,846.42



Merry MARKET

SATURDAY
November 22 • 9a-2p
St. Stephens Lutheran Church MS

50 VENDORS!

**CHRISTMAS
SHOPPING EVENT!**

- SEWING
- CRAFTS
- JEWELRY
- POTTERY
- ARTWORK
- CLOTHING
- HANDBAGS
- BAKEGOODS
- COOKBOOKS



LUNCH
SOUP
or
SANDWICH

PROCEEDS FROM BOOTH SPACE RENTAL
TO BENEFIT ALASKA MISSION TEAM

2304 SPRINGS ROAD • HICKORY

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 16 - 11:30am

Town Hall meeting:
Monday, November 10 at 5:15pm

Agenda: 2026 Budget & Goals



Wanna Go?

Tuesday, Dec. 9
6:30pm

Cost: \$75 (Ticket, dinner, & transportation)

Join us for an evening at Narrowway Christian Dinner Theater, Fort Mill, SC

A deposit of \$25 is required to reserve your seat.
RSVP by Nov. 20 to Kristy at ksmith@sslcms.org



Support our Mission team
with **FUN PASTA**

Get ready for the family gatherings
with pasta shapes.

FUN PASTA has different themes
(sports, animals, holidays) for any
occasion.

Orders can be placed at
www.sslcms.org/funpasta

Youth News

Building relationships in Christ to develop and strengthen faithful followers for life.

Sunday Morning Bible Study (9:15 am):

- Middle School (The Youth House side "B")
- High School (The Youth House side "A")

Mark Your Calendars!

11/9 12p-1p Confirmation - Unit Check-in

Confirmation students and their families will meet in the sanctuary immediately after the 10:30 am worship service for the Confirmation Unit Check-in.

11/9 12-3p Middle School Hang Time

Relax, refuel, and reconnect with food, friends, and faith-filled discussion in The Youth House! We'll dive into our series U Matter, because your life, your faith, and you matter to God.

11/9 5-8p High School Hang Time

Relax, refuel, and reconnect with food, friends, and faith-filled discussion in The Youth House! We'll dive into our series U Matter, because your life, your faith, and you matter to God.

11/16 12p-4p The Corner Table (Backpack Program)

Grab lunch in the Youth House before helping pack food bags for local kids through The Backpack Program. It's a fun way to serve and make a difference for children in our community!

11/22 8a-3p Merry Market Cafe' Fundraiser

Have fun and spread holiday cheer, all while supporting the Youth Ministry. Funds raised go towards future Youth events and retreats.

11/26 3p-11p Operation Christmas Child

Share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with children around the world by processing shoebox gifts. Sign-up and more information can be found @ www.sslcms.org/youth

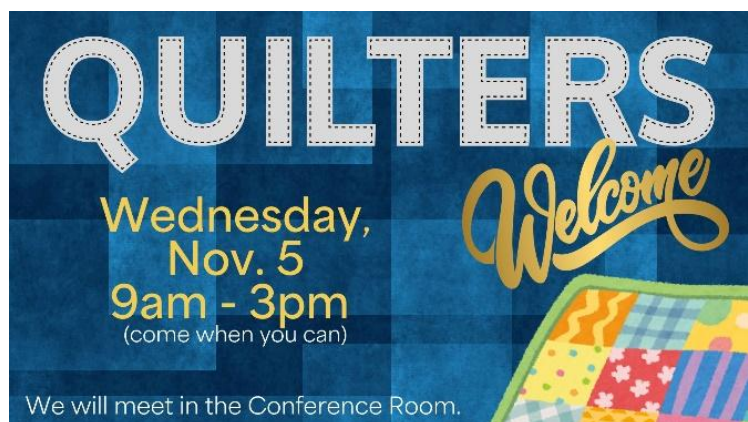
Looking to serve or want to learn more about Youth Ministry?

Visit sslcms.org/youth for all the latest



HELP VICAR TRISTAN LEARN HOW
WE CAN BETTER SERVE OUR
COMMUNITY!

Fill out this quick
survey to share your
perspective and shape
his mission outreach
project



LWML to Honor Military Veterans & Active Military the Weekend of November 8 & 9

The Elizabeth Circle of LWML will be honoring all Military Veterans and Active Military with patriotic ribbons on Saturday and Sunday, November 8 and 9. Please plan to attend church services, so you can be recognized. We thank each of you for your service. If you are not sure if your name is on the list, please contact Tashia in the church office.

A blue rectangular graphic with yellow text and graphics. At the top, a yellow banner with black text says "SIGN-UP FOR". Below it is a yellow basketball hoop and backboard. Under the hoop is a yellow rectangle with the text "SSLS". Below that, the words "INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL" are written in large, bold, yellow capital letters. Underneath is a yellow rectangle with the text "TEAMS:". Below that, the text "K-2 Co-Ed / Girls 3,4,5 / Boys 3,4,5" is written in black. Below that is a yellow rectangle with the text "PLEASE GO TO [SSLSATHLETICS.ORG/REGISTER](https://sslsathletics.org/register) TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD REGISTRATION ENDS 11/6". Below that, the text "ONCE EVERYONE IS SIGNED UP, THERE WILL BE A MEETING TO GIVE OUT SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING SCHEDULES" is written in black. Below that is a yellow rectangle with the text "MEETING NOV. 5TH 6PM". At the bottom, the text "ALL GAMES WILL BE ON SATURDAY'S STARTING IN DECEMBER" is written in bold black capital letters.

SIGN-UP FOR

SSLS

**INTRAMURAL
BASKETBALL**

TEAMS:

K-2 Co-Ed / Girls 3,4,5 / Boys 3,4,5

**PLEASE GO TO [SSLSATHLETICS.ORG/REGISTER](https://sslsathletics.org/register)
TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD
REGISTRATION ENDS 11/6**

ONCE EVERYONE IS SIGNED UP, THERE
WILL BE A MEETING TO GIVE OUT SPECIFIC
INFORMATION REGARDING SCHEDULES

MEETING NOV. 5TH 6PM

**ALL GAMES WILL BE ON SATURDAY'S
STARTING IN DECEMBER**

Operation Christmas Child

Millions of children will be touched by the simple gifts we place in a shoebox. These boxes must be prepared early for distribution throughout the world. Our LWML members will be collecting filled boxes in the narthex or leave your boxes at the church office

Thank you for your participation in this mission.

BOXES MUST BE RETURNED BY THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH.

Thank You From the Pastors

Thank you so much to all of you for the many kind comments and beautiful cards that we recieved as we were recognized for 20 years of service at St. Stephens. It is amazing how quickly the time has gone by for both Trudi and me! We thank God for the love that you share and for our partnership in the spreading of the Gospel. Let's keep Connecting People with Jesus everyday!

With Grateful Hearts,
Pastor Dave & Trudi Ziehr

Family of St. Stephens,
Holly and I want to extend our heartfelt thanks for all the cards, gifts, and words of appreciation you shared with us in October during Church Worker Appreciation Month. Your kindness, encouragement, and prayers mean more than we can express. We are truly blessed to serve among you and to be part of the St. Stephens family. Your encouragement reminds me of Paul's words in Philippians 1:3—"I thank my God every time I remember you." Thank you for being a congregation that loves, supports, and partners so faithfully in the Gospel.

In Christ,
Pastor Shea & Holly Pennington

Cards For Homebound Members

Once again the Elizabeth Circle of LWML will be sending cards from our congregation to our home bound members. Please write the name(s) of the home bound member(s) on the outside of the envelope along with your name on the insides of the cards. You do not need to seal, as this makes the cards too difficult for our members to open. Secure them with a ribbon or rubber band and drop them in the marked bins in the narthex. Please keep them in alphabetical order by last name as it appears on the list. This expedites the sorting process. We will collect them and then deliver them along with a gift at Christmas to these members. This is a special joy for them to receive, and we hear how they keep them all year and do not throw them away. Please involve your children, Sunday School students or Lutheran School students, if possible. They love drawings from children, stickers, etc., even on the outside of the envelopes. The lists will be included in the bulletin or can be found in the welcome center in the narthex. We will begin sorting cards on Tuesday, December 2, and getting gifts ready to be distributed shortly thereafter. The deadline for having them back in will be Monday, December 1. Thank you in advance for your participation in this worthwhile project that will brighten Christmas for our home bound members.

Willine Austin
Allen Bolick
Ervin Bolick
Ann Bowman
Virginia Caldwell
Ralph Cazire
Ruth Cook
Cassie Deal
Margaret Deal
Carolyn Garren
Phil Gnadt
Amy Hall
Nancy Hicks
Kay Hollar
Pat Hollar

Marie Huffman
Thelma Huffman
Martha Killian
Hazel Lovelace
Rebecca Moffett
Clark & Sherry Norris
Jean Rollins
Garner Settlemyre
Carroll Shook
Charles Shook
Betty Sigmon
Kay Weaver
Jo Wilhelm
Ruth Willis
Catherine Winkler

Children's Ministry

Sunday Morning Bible Hour - 9:15-10:15am Ed Wing

Preschool & Kinders: Riser Room

Grades 1 & 2: Ed Wing #222

Grades 3 - 5: Ed Wing #220

CPH Enduring Faith

Children's Worship

10:30AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

Preschool- 5th Grade

Meet in the choir room during the sermon

Opportunities to serve weekly



Children's Christmas Service Saturday, Dec 20 5:30pm

We have begun preparing! Don't miss out on a chance to be a part of this special worship service.

Opportunities for musicians, singers, readers, & ushers. All ages welcome. Register and receive a worship t-shirt!



St. Stephens Lutheran School News
Excellence in Education since 1943

Make A Joyful Noise
(Psalm 98:4)

School Board Members - Scott Clontz, Chairman, Erica Moretz, David Janisko, Kim Yancey, and Shawn Sigmon

Please join the staff and students of SSLS for:

Veteran's Day Breakfast & Chapel
Tuesday, November 11, 2025
8:15am - Breakfast
9:00am - Chapel

Call Debbi in the school office to RSVP.



Support St. Stephens Lutheran School

2025-2026 PTL Family & Corporate Sponsorships

Help support our students, teachers, and school community by becoming a PTL Sponsor!

Your partnership helps fund important school programs and events such as:

- Back-to-School Celebration at Kool Park
- Veteran's Day & GRANDS Day Breakfasts
- Teacher Appreciation Week & monthly lunches/treats
- Family Night, Muffins with Mom, Donuts with Dad, and more!

Sponsorship Levels:

- Diamond: \$1000
- Platinum: \$750
- Gold: \$500
- Silver: \$250
- Bronze: \$50

Depending on the level, your family or business will be recognized on our school website, media board, Facebook post, and/or event signage.

For more information or to become a sponsor,
please contact SSLS PTL by 10/31/2025.

 ptl@sslcms.org

NOVEMBER

UPCOMING EVENTS

ST STEPHENS LUTHERAN SCHOOL

NOV 3-7

FALL BOOK FAIR

NOV 6

ACADEMIC FAMILY STEAM NIGHT

5:30 PM

NOV 11

VETERAN'S DAY BREAKFAST & CHAPEL

8:00AM

NOV 19

SSLS SPIRIT NIGHT AT

JASON'S DELI

NOV 20

KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

6:30 PM

NOV 21

HICKORY CHRISTMAS PARADE AT 6 PM

WAPC DRESS DOWN DAY

NOV 22

SSLC MERRY MARKET

9AM-2PM

NOV 26-28

THANKSGIVING BREAK

SCHOOL CLOSED

Today's Readings

Revelation 7:9-17

9 After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes with palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice:

Salvation belongs to our God,
who is seated on the throne,
and to the Lamb!

11 All the angels stood around the throne, and along with the elders and the four living creatures they fell facedown before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying,

Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and strength
be to our God forever and ever. Amen.

13 Then one of the elders asked me, "Who are these people in white robes, and where did they come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you know." Then he told me: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 For this reason they are before the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. The one seated on the throne will shelter them: 16 They will no longer hunger; they will no longer thirst; the sun will no longer strike them, nor will any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb who is at the center of the throne will shepherd them; he will guide them to springs of the waters of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

1 John 3:1-3

3 See what great love the Father has given us that we should be called God's children—and we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it didn't know him.

2 Dear friends, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet been revealed. We know that when he appears, we will be like him because we will see him as he is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself just as he is pure.

Matthew 5:1-12

5 When he saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 Then he began to teach them, saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 Blessed are the humble, for they will inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.

10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

11 "You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me. 12 Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

LET US PRAY FOR.....

SPECIAL PRAYERS

**BUILDING A FIRM FOUNDATION - MISSION & MINISTRY CENTER
ST. STEPHENS LUTHERAN SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL
CHURCH COUNCIL
SHAUEN & KRISTA TRUMP, Missionaries in Africa
TRINITY HMONG LUTHERAN CHURCH & PASTOR ZANG YANG
AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH in HickoryKK, NC
OUR COMMUNITY, COUNTY, STATE, NATION, AND THE WORLD
VICTIMS & SURVIVORS OF HURRICANE MELISSA**

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST A LOVED ONE

RALPH CAZIRE & FAMILY, Brenda was called to glory on 10/28

FAMILY OF TABITHA WORLEY, her cousin Ashley Arnette called to glory 10/29

**RON AHRE FRIENDS & FAMILY. Ron was called to glory. Family friend of
Cindy Johnson.**

PRAYERS FOR OUR HOME MEMBERS

**CATHERINE WINKLER
WILLINE AUSTIN
ALLEN BOLICK**

FIVE FAMILY PRAYER

**STEVE & PEGGY DAVIS
JUSTIN & ERIN SIGMAN FAMILY
DAWN BARGER FAMILY
SAM & MICHELLE WALLACE FAMILY
CASEY CLINE**

HOSPICE CARE

CONNIE ZIEHR, Pastor Dave's mother

PRAYERS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

ELAINE & BIRDIE KENT, celebrating 73rd Anniversary on 11/2

JOYE & TERRY HOLLAR, celebrating 32nd Anniversary on 11/6

HOSPITALIZED

KENNETH VESPER, St. Louis, broken vertebrates & kidney issues, brother-in-law of David Pingel

TRISTAN STARNES, health issues, former SSLS Warrior

JOSHUA SPENCER, health issues, son of Barbara Underwood

UPCOMING PROCEDURES

J P NELSON, kidney transplant, 11/10 - Duke Hospital

DEAN LEADBETTER, kidney donor, 11/10 - Duke Hospital

PRAYERS FOR ONGOING TREATMENTS

DINKY EDDINS, breast cancer

GIL BRAUCH, cancer

ROBYN DRUM BOLEMAN, acute leukemia

ERVIN BOLICK, cancer & recovering from a fall/compression fracture in his spine

LINDA TILLEY, cancer

DELANEY JESSUP, cancer

SHERRY NORRIS, breast cancer

ALICE MCDANIEL, breast cancer

KAY WEAVER, Squamous Cell (Skin) Cancer

CHARLES HUTCHINSON, aggressive cancer has returned, friends of Tom & Kristy Smith

RECOVERING

KATHY MORETZ, home recovering, foot surgery

SHARON JONES, health issues

DIANE DAVIS, eye issues

BELLA BARHAM, health issues

KATHY EVERHART, health concerns, neighbor of Jon & Jane Guelzow

PAM CLOHESY, home recovering from knee surgery

SHANNON CLOHESY, home recovering

SUSAN RUDISILL, home recovering

SHARON RADKE, home recovering from shoulder surgery

GREYSAN BEARD, recovering from a car accident - niece of Betty Flowers

JUNE STARNES, recovering from dog attack - niece of Alice McDaniel